

Thailand situation update on 18 September 2020

1. International Situation

As of 18 September 2020, there were a total of 30,372,552 confirmed cases with 61,144 patients in critical condition and 950,941 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 (6,874,596), India (5,214,677), Brazil (4,457,443), Russia (1,091,186), Peru (750,098), Colombia (743,945), Mexico (684,113), South Africa (655,572), Spain (625,651), and Argentina (601,713). The 41st is the People's Republic of China (90,298 cases, as well as 4,997 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 September 2020 showed that 7,386,569 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 3,029 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	7,386,569	3,029
• Airport screening* (45,971 flights)	4,603,901	3,009
• Seaports**	172,734	2
• Ground ports***	2,320,233	17
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	289,701	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 September 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 896 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 437,790 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	865,200
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who met the PUI criteria 	437,790
<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)	437,790
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detected from ports of entry 	3,029
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (136,622 cases in private hospitals, and 294,121 cases in public hospitals) 	434,673
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,497
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,338
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergoing Treatment 	100
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaths 	58
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,497
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transmission 	2,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imported Cases 	1,052
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	559

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). 1,963 cases are male, and 1,534 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.28:1). In terms of nationality, 3,113 cases are Thai, 375 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

212 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,285 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 Interior commanded all provinces in Thailand that share a border with Myanmar must operate the following three measures:

1. Increase strict surveillance at border provinces for the smuggling of illegal migrants and those who do not pass the screening process.
2. The border provinces that have a main road or secondary transit roads must establish checkpoints/roadblocks, patrol areas, and surveillance to block smuggled persons.
3. All provinces must integrate government and related agencies in the area to follow up and search for undocumented workers in Thailand both in business and workplaces that use foreign labor. If they are found, the government and partners will proceed in accordance with the regulations and public health measures. Moreover, they are asking people in the community to help with monitoring and surveillance, and should notify the village leader, or the Damrongtham Center for further action.

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.



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- 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.