

Thailand situation update on 19 September 2020

1. International Situation

As of 19 September 2020, there were a total of 30,719,365 confirmed cases with 61,417 patients in critical condition and 956,881 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 (6,925,941), India (5,308,014), Brazil (4,497,434), Russia (1,097,251), Peru (756,412), Colombia (750,471), Mexico (688,954), Spain (659,334), South Africa (657,627), and Argentina (613,658). The 41st is the People's Republic of China (90,325 cases, as well as 5,010 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 18 September 2020 showed that 7,392,757 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 3,034 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	7,392,757	3,034
• Airport screening* (46,032 flights)	4,605,442	3,009
• Seaports**	172,957	2
• Ground ports***	2,322,587	18
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****		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 19 September 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 842 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 438,632 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	866,042
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who met the PUI criteria 	438,632
<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)	433,807
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detected from ports of entry 	3,034
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (138,221 cases in private hospitals, and 297,289 cases in public hospitals) 	435,510
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,500
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,341
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergoing Treatment 	100
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaths 	58
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,475
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transmission 	2,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imported Cases 	1,055
- Designated Quarantine Places*	5562

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). 1,966 cases are male, and 1,534 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.28:1). In terms of nationality, 3,116 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 3,288 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

- Thailand is preparing measures to respond to the pandemic through the Ministry of Defense intensively controlling checkpoints to intercept illegal border crossings. The Ministry of Public Health has developed a real-time data management system for distributing medical supplies and medical equipment to high risk areas. The reserve of supplies can be used for up to 3 months. The government is also providing a place for the detention of travelers from abroad. These travelers are surveilled for 14 days to control the disease. The Ministry of Public Health has organized a medical van unit to assess for COVID-19 in risk areas, which was provided by the King.
- The government has approved the entrance of foreign tourists into Thailand. They will be issued a Special Tourist Visa, which enables them to stay for 270 days. The Ministry of Defense and other related agencies have conducted simulation exercises for coping with a new wave of COVID-19. The government has utilized an online platform named “Thai Chana” for COVID-19 outbreak prevention and control. Bangkok launched the BKK COVID-19 system to help people protect against COVID-19 and to assess. This system also includes a hot line, which can be reached at 1646 and 1669 for further assistance.

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.



The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

-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.