

Thailand situation update on 21 September 2020

1. International Situation

As of 21 September 2020, there were a total of 31,258,910 confirmed cases with 61,224 patients in critical condition and 965,323 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 (7,004,768), India (5,487,580), Brazil (4,544,629), Russia (1,109,595), Peru (768,895), Colombia (765,076), Mexico (697,663), South Africa (661,211), Spain (659,334), and Argentina (631,365). The 42nd is the People's Republic of China (90,370 cases, as well as 5,033 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 20 September 2020 showed that 7,401,544 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 3,054 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	7,401,544	3,054
• Airport screening* (46,156 flights)	4,608,574	3,034
• Seaports**	173,541	2
• Ground ports***	2,327,658	18
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	291,771	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 21 September 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 939 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 440,708 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	868,118
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who met the PUI criteria 	440,708
<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)	440,708
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detected from ports of entry 	3,054
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (138,983 cases in private hospitals, and 298,583 cases in public hospitals) 	437,566
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,506
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,344
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergoing Treatment 	103
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaths 	59
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,506
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transmission 	2,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imported Cases 	1,061
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	568

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). 1,968 cases are male, and 1,538 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.28:1). In terms of nationality, 3,122 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 3,294 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, 568 cases were positive from the state quarantine supported by the government. A total of 55 confirmed cases were found from the active case finding measures.

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Ministry of Public Health requests individuals returning from the assembly to monitor and observe their symptoms for 14 days. Individuals should check their temperature, wear a mask, separate food and personal items, and refrain from close contact with elderly and those who have an underlying disease such as diabetes and hypertension. If you have a fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, or decreased sense of taste or smell, you should immediately go to the nearest hospital for diagnosis. Thailand is still at risk for the virus and individuals may be asymptomatic and not show any symptoms while in society.
- The Department of Medical Science has announced a list of 226 laboratories that have passed proficiency testing for SARS-CoV-2 infection. Of the total 226 laboratories, 85 labs are inside Bangkok and surrounding provinces areas (37 public sectors, 48 private sectors) and the remaining 141 labs are in others provinces (116 public sectors, 25 private sectors).
- The Ministry of Public Health's Department of Disease Control (DDC) has provided guidance to Public Health offices in all areas. They have also been involved in helping organizations operate disease prevention and control measures. The DDC recommends populations to observe their symptoms and follow disease prevention practices. The population can be confident in the strong and organized disease prevention and control standards of Thailand. Individuals are requested to take care of themselves and continue to strictly follow disease control measures: wearing face masks, washing hands, separating personal things, keeping a distance from others, and decreasing exposure to crowded places. People can ask for more information through the DDC hotline: 1422.

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.



The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

- 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.