

## Thailand situation update on 28 September 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 28 September 2020, there were a total of 33,327,989 confirmed cases with 65,004 patients in critical condition and 1,002,665 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 (7,321,343), India (6,074,702), Brazil (4,732,309), Russia (1,159,573), Colombia (813,056), Peru (805,302), Spain (735,198), Mexico (730,317), Argentina (711,325), and South Africa (670,766). The 44th is the People's Republic of China (90,494 cases, as well as 5,076 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 27 September 2020 showed that 7,446,631 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 3,106 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
<b>Total number</b>	7,446,631	3,106
• Airport screening* (46,594 flights)	4,619,590	3,086
• Seaports**	175,183	2
• Ground ports***	2,344,878	18
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	306,980	0

Remark: Includes data starting from \*January 3<sup>rd</sup>, \*\*January 1<sup>st</sup>, \*\*\*February 1<sup>st</sup>, \*\*\*\*January 30<sup>th</sup>

#### 2.2 Situation of Patients with Suspected Symptoms of COVID-19 in Thailand.

On 28 September 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 816 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 448,693 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
<b>Total number of laboratory tests</b>	876,103
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People who met the PUI criteria</li> </ul>	448,693
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From the Active Case Finding</li> </ul>	15,834
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Returnees under state quarantine</li> </ul>	81,676
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People who did not meet the PUI criteria</li> </ul>	329,900
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	448,693
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from ports of entry</li> </ul>	3,106
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (141,167 cases in private hospitals, and 304,332 cases in public hospitals)</li> </ul>	445,499
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao</li> </ul>	88
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	3,545
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered and discharged from hospitals</li> </ul>	3,369
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing Treatment</li> </ul>	117
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deaths</li> </ul>	59
<b>Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases</b>	3,545
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Transmission</li> </ul>	2,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imported Cases</li> </ul>	1,100
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Designated Quarantine Places*</li> </ul>	607

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). 1,999 cases are male, and 1,546 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.28:1). In terms of nationality, 3,150 cases are Thai, 386 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

213 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,332 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, 607 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

- On 28 September 2020, the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) concluded to expand the period of the Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situation, B.E. 2548 for one month until the end of October. This decision was made to control the COVID-19 pandemic as the global situation and neighboring countries are seeing increases in cases.
- The Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Public Health said that the Ministry of Public Health is ready to implement measures to open the country to foreign tourists. Entrance into Thailand will be considered based upon the level of transmission in the tourists' country of origin. If the country has strong control over the epidemic, it will be classified as a "Travel Bubble". This means international travel from this country will not require 14 days of quarantine. If travelers are coming from a country with ongoing outbreaks, they will need to quarantine to keep the economy going under these conditions. The Thai people must feel safe and disease control measures must be effective.
- The Ministry of Interior has permitted specific groups of aliens to remain in the Kingdom of Thailand as a special case. This action is in accordance with Section 17 of the Immigration Act B.E. 2522 (1979), and it was amended for extending the period of time for implementation in accordance with Section 35 and 35 (5) of the Immigration Act B.E. 2522 (1979) for aliens. The policy mechanism allowing the specific groups of aliens to stay will be temporarily extended from 27 September B.E. 2563 (2020) to 31 October B.E. 2563 (2020). Aliens who are unable to leave and have a purpose to stay in the Kingdom after 31 October B.E. 2563 (2020) must submit a complete application at the Immigration Bureau by 31 October 2020.
- The Center of COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) has permitted 6 categories of travellers, which are (1) the foreign athletes who will be participate in the international long-distance bicycle race "The Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's Cup Tour of Thailand 2020", (2) pilots and cabin crews of Thai Airways that worked on Repatriation Flights, (3) non-immigrant visa holders, mainly focussing on businesspersons who do not have work permits with a copy of the deposit account record for the past 6 consecutive months of at least 500,000 baht, (4) the Long Stay tourist with Special Tourist Visa for entering Thailand, (5) APEC Card Holders with a low risk country such as New Zealand, Australia, Singapore etc., and (6) Those who desire to stay in Thailand for a short and long term. Those who need

to stay 60 days, can apply for another 30 days with a copy of the deposit account for the past 6 consecutive months of not less than 500,000 baht.

#### 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.