

Thailand situation update on 24 December 2020

1. International Situation

Type of case	Total number	Rate of Increase
Confirmed cases	78,436,960	+716,566
Deaths	1,739,797	2.22%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total number of PUI*
Total number of new cases	67
• Cases found positive from state quarantine (Imported)	8
• Cases found positive outside state quarantine (Imported)	1
• Cases were infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	58
Total number of confirmed cases	5,829
• Cases were imported from overseas	1,934
• Cases were infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	2,622
• Cases were infected migrant workers (Active case finding)	1,273
Total number of confirmed cases	5,829
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - New recovered and discharged from hospitals	4,116 (70.61%) 21
• Staying in designated quarantine places	1,184 (20.31%)
• Undergoing treatment	469 (8.05%)
• Deaths	60 (1.03%)

Remark: *PUI (Patients Under Investigation)

Type of patient	Total number of PUI
Total number of screened people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Point of entry (Airport, Ground port and Seaport) 	7,509,197
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who renew their passports at Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana 	404,089
Total number of laboratory tests	1,003,594
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	576,184
<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)	576,184
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	3,748
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (171,026 cases in private hospitals, and 401,322 cases in public hospitals) 	572,348
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Prime Minister and Minister of Defense announced at the press interview after the meeting of the Center for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) at the Government House that the CCSA had raised the level of strict preventive measures against COVID-19. The area of the country thus will be divided into 4 types: 1) Maximum Control Area, 2) Control Area, 3) High Level Surveillance Area, and 4) Surveillance Area. The measures will be considered by the provincial governors and relevant agencies of each province. The public health measures will be applied for educational institutions, work places, and public events. Implementation will take into account the economy and travel during the upcoming New Year festival. Meanwhile, the Department of Disease Control (DDC) has hurriedly investigated the outbreaks from the seafood trade market and some affected areas to prevent negative impact on the export business of the country.

- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Health, gave an interview after the meeting to monitor the progress of disease prevention and control in Samut-Sakhon province that the disease control had gone well as planned, i.e. no rapid transmission and no outbreaks spreading outside of the area. The infected persons had been staying in control places thus would not spread the infection. All the close contact people had been quarantined in the dormitories in the central shrimp market for already 6 days. Any mildly ill persons will be treated at the field hospital and quite severely ill persons will be referred to the provincial hospital. The place to set up additional needed field hospitals will be far away from the community. Public relations to build understanding and trust will also be implemented.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

The current outbreaks of COVID-19 in some provinces of Thailand had been related to the Samut Sakhon province outbreak. Investigation had shown that the disease transmission to surrounding people occurred among those asymptomatic persons. In addition, the Department of Medical Science has found that the causative virus strain can easily spread compared to the one that caused the previous outbreaks. Therefore, practicing good hygiene was needed for self protection and to lower the risk of spreading to surrounding people. Moreover, businesses such as shopping malls, shops, and courtyard activity centers should have surveillance measures among customers, prepare hygienic supplies such as alcohol gel or spray to serve customers, and keep social distancing measures.