

Thailand situation update on 6 January 2021

1. International Situation

Type of cases	Total number	Rate of Increase
Confirmed cases	86,900,891	+738,016
Deaths	1,877,450	2.16%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total number of PUI*
Total number of new cases	365
• Cases found in the state quarantine centers (Imported)	16
• Cases found outside the state quarantine centers (Imported)	0
• Cases were infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	250
• Cases were infected migrant workers (Active case finding)	99
Total number of confirmed cases	9,331
• Cases found in the state quarantine centers (Imported)	1,548
• Cases found outside the state quarantine centers (Imported)	534
• Cases were infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	4,674
• Cases were infected migrant workers (Active case finding)	2,575
Total number of confirmed cases	9,331
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - New recovered and discharged from hospitals	4,418 (47.35%) 21
• Undergoing treatment	4,847 (51.94%)
• Deaths - New deaths	66 (0.71%) 1

Remark: *PUI (Patients Under Investigation)

Type of patient	Total number of PUI
Total number of screened people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ports of entry (Airport, Ground port and Seaport) 	7,565,025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who renew their passports at Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana 	413,484
Total number of laboratory tests	1,123,409
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	695,999
<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)	695,999
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	3,789
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (193,993 cases in private hospitals, and 498,129 cases in public hospitals) 	692,122
<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 Thailand's Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has warned people not to buy COVID-19 rapid test kits from unauthorized online sellers to perform the tests by themselves. The rapid test kits do not directly identify a causative agent of COVID-19 infection, but test for the person's immunity level. If the person has been just infected with the virus, the rapid test kits can not detect the immunity against the causative agent at a specific time. It is a limitation of implementing the rapid tests; therefore, it should only be performed by experts or health technicians. We do not recommend to perform the rapid test as general use. Using only the rapid test kit to diagnose the disease can be a misleading diagnosis and give false results resulting in more severe disease outbreaks.

- The Department of Land Transport and Royal Thai Police flexibly allow those persons who obtain a driving license and an expired vehicle license to be able to use the existing licenses until 31 March 2021. The Office of Transport is on hold services to extend driving license in some activities that require training at the Office until further notice. Activities not related to the training program are still allowed to operate as usual. However, customers must book the queue in advance through DLT Smart Queue.
- Office of the Royal Gazette disseminated the Regulation issued under Section 9 of the Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situations B.E. 2548 (2005) no. 17 for all government sections to comply with during the COVID -19 outbreak as follows:
 - 1.Strengthen the measures enforcement on disease prevention and control: the staff, disease control officers, and responsible persons of places, activities and businesses promote and encourage customers, travelers and people to strictly comply with the disease prevention and control measures by implementing the social distancing, wearing a mask, frequently washing hands, checking the body temperature, downloading the Morchana and Thaichana application, and being in the designated quarantine measures for a certain period of time if diagnosed as the risk group
 - 2.Upgrade the level of the maximum control areas with the strong disease control measures: the officers check and control the movement of people, especially in the maximum control areas including Chanthaburi, Chonburi, Trat, Rayong and Samut Sakhon provinces. It is required to set up the check points to strictly screen people when entering and leaving the areas. People residing in the aforementioned areas are requested to download the “MoaChana” application. Those who would like to go outside the maximum control areas must provide the necessary reasons and show the identification card with the approval letter issued by the designated office or local administrative official, except the exempt persons.
 - 3.The suppression of the offender causing the disease spreading: the Centre for Resolution of Emergency Situation, the security sectors and the responsible officers are tasked to patrol and check the areas in order to prevent the illegal immigration and the gathering of people at the gambling places including implementing in accordance with the law and regulations. If anyone found the people not complying with the laws and disease control measures, they are able to inform the Prime Minister through the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA), the Government House
 - 4.The punishment: the offender is an offense which may be punished with imprisonment for up to two years or fined up to 40,000 Baht (or both punishments). The infected persons who conceal the travelling information or inform the fake information to the disease control officers may be considered as the offender under the Communicable Disease Acts 2015

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

From mid December to the present time, a lot of local transmission of COVID-19 infection has occurred in the country. Illegal migrant workers in Samut Sakhon province could have been the starting point for the outbreak and spread the disease to Thai people. Furthermore, the viral disease spreading has been found among the people who had a history of visiting gambling, cockfighting and entertainment venues in Central and Eastern regions. There were 56 provinces reported with confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection and case numbers are still rising in some areas. Several cases were found with a history of traveling in crowded places such as pubs and bars during the New Year festival; therefore, the number of new cases has been estimated to be high for at least 1 week, even though prevention and control measures have been implemented effectively. If there is a lack of good cooperation in disease prevention and control from the people, the outbreak is taking longer than expected. To control the outbreak, everyone should wear a mask, wash hands frequently, reduce unnecessary travel, especially in the risk places with crowded people, and scan the Thaichana or Morchana application during traveling. If someone has a fever, cough, sore throat or loss of smell and taste, please seek medical advice immediately and reveal the history of travel as much as possible. Government agencies have to implement the control measures with a social distance in various crowded places such as pubs. In the control areas and high surveillance areas, these risk areas should be considered for close measurements and need to be monitored to secretly open up venues. Other areas where have been ordered to close the legal enforcement have to cover all areas in appropriate measures.