

Thailand situation update on 9 January 2021

1. International Situation

Type of cases	Total number	Rate of Increase
Confirmed cases	89,426,366	+865,388
Deaths	1,923,437	2.15%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total number of PUI*
Total number of new cases	212
• Cases found in the state quarantine centers (Imported)	14
• Cases found outside the state quarantine centers (Imported)	5
• Cases were infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	187
• Cases were infected migrant workers (Active case finding)	6
Total number of confirmed cases	10,053
• Cases found in the state quarantine centers (Imported)	1,573
• Cases found outside the state quarantine centers (Imported)	547
• Cases were infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	5,185
• Cases were infected migrant workers (Active case finding)	2,748
Total number of confirmed cases	10,053
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - New recovered and discharged from hospitals	5,546 (55.17%) 291
• Undergoing treatment	4,440 (44.16%)
• Deaths - New deaths	67 (0.67%) 0

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) 	7,581,544
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who renew their passports at Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana 	415,725
Total number of laboratory tests	1,162,773
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	735,363
<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)	735,363
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	3,810
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (202,684 cases in private hospitals, and 528,781 cases in public hospitals) 	731,465
<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 Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) requested the collaboration from all people to avoid or refrain from travelling across the provinces, especially in five provinces specified as the maximum controlled areas with highly strict measures including Samut Sakhon, Rayong, Chonburi, Chanthaburi, and Trat. However, if anyone has a necessity to travel across the mentioned provinces, they need to comply with rules and will be checked on four main things to reduce disease transmissions including; 1) body temperature and symptoms 2) downloading “Morchana” application per suggestion 3) the reasons of travelling and 4) an approval letter. For those people travelling to other 72 provinces, they will be checked for the same things with the entering of those five provinces, but there is no need to present the approval letter until 31 January 2021. Regarding the process of asking for the approval letter to enter those five provinces, the details are as follows:

1. For general people, they can ask for the approval letter at the governing sectors (e.g., District Chief, Subdistrict Headman, Village Headman, Chief Administrator of the PAO) and the Chief of the Police Stations.
 2. For Government officers, they can ask for the approval letter from the Head of their offices.
 3. For the staff working at Enterprises/organizations, they can ask for the approval letter from their supervisors or the owners of the businesses.
 4. For people who need to travel across the provinces routinely, the designated officers can issue the approval letter for a fixed period of time on a case-by-case basis.
 5. For people whose home located in other provinces and desiring to enter the five provinces, they need to ask for the approval letter at their hometown before entering/ leaving the areas of those five provinces.
- The governor of the State Railway of Thailand announced to prohibit the 12 touring trains which always serve on Saturday and Sunday from 9 January 2021 onward, and 30 commercial trains from 13 January to 28 February 2021. For further information, please contact 24 hours hotline 1690. Passengers can bring their tickets to request a full refund for this special case at all railway stations in Thailand.
 - Department of National Park Wildlife and Plant Conservation, the Superintendent of Doi Inthanon announced temporary closure of Kew Mae Pan Nature Trail in Ban Luang Sub-district, Chom Thong District, Chiang Mai province from 9 January 2021 onward. According to an announcement of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment on 20 December 2020 in a subject of prevention measures and dangerous communicable disease surveillance for COVID-19 infection (No. 6), it informed the agencies under the supervision to strictly manage a tourist destination, learning space and other customer services in accordance with the measures determined by the Provincial Communicable Disease Committee. Other sectors of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment were requested to refrain from organizing activities that gathered a large group of people.

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 58 provinces reported with confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection. The overall trend of the outbreak has not been increasing based on updated situations including; no cases reported in the South and Northeast regions, no new cases in many provinces for more than 14 days, and effective control measures to limit the number of new infection in high prevalence/incidence areas in Nakhon Pathom and Trat provinces. However, some new cases were found with history of traveling to crowded places such as pubs and bars in several provinces (for example, in Chiang Mai province during the past New Year festival), and new source of infection such as cockfighting sites in AngThong and other provinces, and markets in the Central region, where had not been detected of any cases before. Moreover, infected people who are smuggled across natural borders to Thailand have been discovered continuously. Therefore, it is expected that there will be the new cluster of the outbreak in the country but it will not be the big one as the Superspreading event. The number of new cases is likely to increase for at least one week, even though prevention and control measures are 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 Thachana 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. In maximum controlled areas with highly strict measures, these risk areas should be considered for closure and need to be monitored for any secretly open up venues. Other areas where have been ordered to close, the legal enforcement have to cover all areas in appropriate measures from minimum to maximum penalties.