

Thailand situation update on 24 February 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	112,696,527	+390,976	
Deaths	2,497,594		2.22%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number*
Number of new cases	93
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in quarantine facilities centers (Imported) 	22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found outside quarantine facilities centers (Imported) 	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in Thailand through the public health service system (Local transmission) 	59
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found from active case finding (Local) 	12
Total number of confirmed cases	25,692
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in quarantine facilities centers (Imported) 	2,126
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found outside quarantine facilities centers (Imported) 	610
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in Thailand through the public health service system (Local transmission) 	8,496
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found from active case finding (Local) 	14,460
Total number of confirmed cases	25,692
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - New recovered and discharged from hospitals 	24,542 (95.52%) 96
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing treatment 	1,067 (4.15%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths - New deaths 	83 (0.32%) 0

Type of Screened People and PUI	Total Number
Total number	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ports of entry (Airports, ground ports and seaports) 	7,860,652
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who renew their passports at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana 	462,500
Total number of laboratory tests	1,544,266
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	1,116,856
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From active case finding 	15,834
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returnees in quarantine facilities/centers 	81,676
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other people who did not meet the PUI criteria 	329,900
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	1,116,856
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	4,266
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (275,864 cases in private hospitals, and 836,638 cases in public hospitals) 	1,112,502
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88

Remark: *PUI (Patients Under Investigation)

3. Thailand Implementations

- The Center for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) approved the COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan to 13 provinces. The first nine provinces are the highest-risk and strict controlled zones including Samut Sakhon, Bangkok, Pathum Thani, Nonthaburi, Samut Prakan, Tak (Maesot), Nakornpathom, Samut Songkhram and Ratchaburi. The rest are areas considered to be drivers of economy and society which consist of Chonburi, Phuket, Suratthani (Koh Samui) and Chiangmai. The COVID-19 vaccination plan for the target groups was allocated under the consideration of the Provincial Communicable Disease Committee. People should be given a second dose 2-3 weeks after the first dose. 16,300 doses of COVID-19 vaccine will be reserved for hospital personnel to control the spread in hospitals that treat COVID-19 cases.

- Pathumthani has issued an order to reopen places around Pornpat and Suchart Markets on 23 February 2021 with the details below:
 1. Vendors are allowed to operate shops for selling goods in Suchart Market, not exceeding 30% of the total area of the market and each shop needs to maintain distance from each other. In addition, people need to comply with the COVID-19 prevention and control measures issued by the government.
 2. Commercial buildings in Rangsit-Pathumthani Sois 17, 19, and 29 are also allowed to open as usual and the operators must follow disease prevention measures.
- Bangkok announced relaxation measures for four types of establishments, effective starting February 23, 2021 including:
 1. Restaurants can offer dining and serve alcohol until no later than 23.00 hours.
 2. Service establishments, service-like establishments, including pubs, bars, karaoke and massage parlors can open for service but must maintain social distancing of 2 meters between tables. There are no standing tables, no dancing and patrons must register with the Thai Chana or Mor Chana applications.
 3. Gyms, fitness and exercise facilities can open normally including exercise facilities in fields/courts that have audiences.
 4. Banquet rooms, banquet venues, meeting rooms, convention centers and exhibitions can be arranged but must apply for permission at the district office because each activity has a different criteria. Two venues that still remain closed are the cockfighting grounds and fighting betta fish gatherings or other playing fields in the same manner including bullfighting fields.
- Rayong province discussed with 30 administrators of many jurisdictions in the province to join the public relations driving network to communicate the province's unified information under the same direction and to build recognition, understanding, and confidence following the COVID-19 situation. Bringing the right information from the government will expand the results for the benefit of the people, support the government policies through public relations to the people, and check fake news before publishing to have truthful and unified news.
- Samut Sakhon Hospital has jointly prepared a plan for the COVID-19 vaccination rollout. Initially, the hospital will be able to support the vaccination for the target groups including medical staff, and risk groups who work on the front line for approximately 1,900 people. About 500 people per day would get the vaccine in the first week, then it would increase to 800-1,000 people per day, and then be expanded to other groups. The Sinovac vaccine from China will be used first. Once the vaccine is obtained, it must be administered and the second vaccination dose, approximately 2 to 4 weeks later must be accounted for. It is expected that the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine will be available starting March 1, 2021.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

Based on the analysis of the global COVID-19 situational, there has been a downward trend in COVID-19 cases since the end of January 2021. The number of international travelers also decreased since the new wave of infections in Thailand, resulting in a decline of daily infections who have travel histories to foreign countries. There have only been ten cases that tested positive for UK and South Africa variant strains, which were people who returned from overseas and then isolated in quarantine facilities. Based on contact tracing and case investigations, there were no contacts of confirmed cases of COVID-19 who tested positive for the variant strains of COVID-19. Therefore, it is possible that the COVID-19 cases were only detected among international travelers who were isolated in quarantine facilities and sent to the hospital for treatment. Even though the current situation of COVID-19 infections in Thailand reflects a decreasing trend, there is still a need to implement active case finding in communities. Moreover, people can prevent the spread of infection by applying disease prevention measures. Especially wearing a mask, washing hands frequently, reducing unnecessary travel, avoiding crowded or areas at risk of infection, scanning in with the Thai Chana QR code or Mor Chana, monitoring the situation, observing symptoms for 14 days after visiting the market with reported cases. And if you have a fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, or smell loss, taste loss, see a doctor immediately and inform travel history as possible to reduce the spread of disease in the community and prevent transmission to people at risk as to avoid serious illness or death.