

Thailand situation update on 16 March 2021

## 1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	120,824,025	371,364	
<b>Deaths</b>	2,673,633		2.21%

## 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number*
<b>Total number of new cases</b>	<b>149</b>
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	5
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	0
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	21
• Cases found from active case finding	123
<b>Total number of confirmed cases</b>	<b>27,154</b>
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	2,310
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	626
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	9,071
• Cases found from active case finding	15,147
<b>Total number of confirmed cases</b>	<b>27,154</b>
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals	26,229 (96.85%) 65
• Undergoing treatment	768 (2.83%)
• Deaths - New deaths	87 (0.32%) -

# The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

Type of Screened People and PUI	Total Number
<b>Total number</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ports of entry (Airports, ground ports, and seaports)</li> </ul>	8,007,526
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People renewing their passports at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana</li> </ul>	484,396
<b>Total number of laboratory tests</b>	1,633,240
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People who met the PUI criteria</li> </ul>	1,205,830
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From active case finding</li> </ul>	15,834
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Returnees in quarantine facilities/centers</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 PUI</b>	1,205,830
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from ports of entry</li> </ul>	4,625
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sought medical services on their own at hospitals ( 286,380 cases in private hospitals, and 914,73 cases in public hospitals)</li> </ul>	1,201,117
<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

Remark: \*PUI (Patients Under Investigation)

### 3. Thailand Implementations

- The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Interior ordered every Provincial Governors to emphasize the practices of COVID-19 prevention and control measures issued by the Ministry of Public Health especially for the measures of setting only one entry and exit point for markets as well as the D-M-H-T-T which are Distancing, Mask wearing, Hand washing, Testing, and Thai Chana app using within their provinces, strictly.

- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued the certificate approving the new medical technology “COXY-AMP” which is the COVID-19 testing kit using the Loop-mediated isothermal amplification technique. This testing kit was developed by the research team from The National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC) together with the Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University. The Loop-mediated isothermal amplification technique is a technique that proliferates the specific pathogens under controlled temperature, it can be performed easily and if the tested person was infected with the SARS-CoV-2 the color of substance in the test tubes will change from purple to yellow. From testing the COXY-AMP kits with 146 samples, the result showed that the kits had 92% sensitivity, 100% specificity, and 97% accuracy, moreover the result of the test will be shown within 75 minute which is two times faster than the RT-PCR and the cost in only 300 baht per sample.
- The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Chulalongkorn University revealed research results “Trained sniffer dogs to detect asymptomatic COVID-19 cases. Screening people infected with COVID-19 with a thermometer is a basic screening method and only effective for people who have already shown symptoms. As for those who do not show symptoms, this tool still cannot detect. However, trained dogs were able to do so. According to the result from the test, dogs are very accurate in identifying people with the infection but show no symptoms as high as 94.8%. The research was conducted in 6 months, divided into 3 phases, with the first of which took 2 months to test the ability and training the dog to distinguish the infected person's odor with accuracy, speed and certainty, with a support from the Border Patrol Police Division 43 and PQA Associate Co., Ltd. for the preparation and training of dogs. The next step will be hands-on at airports, seaports, popular tourist spots, and training dogs to smell from human feet. For the third phase, this research will extend to new screening tools such as sensors to identify people who are infected suspects.
- The Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) found a contractor employee who works in the area of Building T.100, Central Office of EGAT, Nonthaburi province was a confirmed COVID-19 infection patient. EGAT ordered the closure of T.100 building for 3 days between March 16-18, 2021 for cleaning and spraying disinfectant buildings including Langsuan market area. For those who are at high risk, they must be proactively examined and sent to a state-designated location for 14 days, while those at low-risk groups must quarantine themselves and work from home for 14 days. Employees who have no risk or worked at other buildings have to work outside the office to watch for symptoms as well as control and reduce the spread of pathogens.
- Phetchaburi province revealed that the organizational quarantine has been established by Cal-Comp Electronics (Thailand) Public Company Limited to quarantine foreign staff and experts travelling from aboard. If people go out of an isolated room for over 3 minutes, they will have to restart their quarantine period.

- Narivittaya School in Ratchaburi province announced the school closure to clean and disinfect the area. The school will be opened for the kindergarten 1 - secondary 3 students on 22 March 2021 and it will be closed for the secondary 4-6 students from 16-28 March 2021. In addition, there will be online learning during the closure due to the spread of covid-19 at Bangkhae Market where many student families live.
- Prachuap Khiri Khan province informed people and vendors who have travelled history to Bangkhae Market from 20 January - 13 March 2021 to receive the COVID-19 test. The health care workers have been assigned to test vendors in Bangkhae Market randomly with the target of over 250 samples in each month. This aimed to prevent the COVID-19 spreading. The administration of the first COVID-19 vaccination has prepared the vaccination sites in 8 government hospitals and Bangkok-Hua Hin Hospital.

#### 4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

The global COVID-19 situation found that more than 120 million cumulative cases with slightly higher daily cases but below 500,000 per day since mid- February 2021, especially in Europe and South America. The number of daily deaths tends to decline to below 10,000 cases per day ,and more than 2.6 million total death cases. In Thailand, 22,170 infected cases were found in the new wave outbreaks. More than two thirds were found from proactive screening and most of which are foreign workers. The number of daily infected cases is likely to increase from the past week. According to the cluster at the markets at BangKhae district, almost half of those infected are Myanmar migrants and some of them (133 people) are under investigation. The majority of the investigated groups were market traders (81.93%), followed by buyers (14.46 %) and 3 close contacts. The infection was found continuously because of a spread of this group to nearby provinces, and more cases may be found in the central provinces this week. Disease control cooperation is therefore important at this time, especially in high-risk provinces. Therefore, people are requested to cooperate while wearing a mask, frequently washing hands, and reducing unessential travel especially in crowded places. They are requested to scan “Thai Chana” or “Mor Chana” applications when they need to travel to other places. Anyone who visited the infected areas and developed a fever, caught, sore throat, running nose or loss of smell and taste, they are recommended to visit hospitals immediately and inform the doctors of their real travelling history as much as possible.