

Thailand situation update on 19 March 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	122,435,348	561,204	
Deaths	2,704,440		2.21%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number*
Total number of new cases	100
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	4
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	0
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	55
• Cases found from active case finding	41
Total number of confirmed cases	27,594
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	2,334
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	627
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	9,268
• Cases found from active case finding	24,633
Total number of confirmed cases	27,594
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals	26,450 (95.85%) 73
• Undergoing treatment	1,054 (3.82%)
• Deaths - New deaths	90 (0.33%) 1

Type of Screened People and PUI	Total Number
Total number	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ports of entry (Airports, ground ports, and seaports) 	8,030,299
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People renewing their passports at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana 	489,176
Total number of laboratory tests	1,651,240
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	1,223,830
<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"> People who did not meet the PUI criteria 	329,900
Total number of people who met the criteria of PUI	1,223,830
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	4,685
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (282,097 cases in private hospitals, and 877,986 cases in public hospitals) 	1,219,057
<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 of COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) established the measures and guidelines for the activities organizing during 2021 Songkran Festival, requesting the public's cooperation to refrain from splashing water, concerts and activities with close contact, including paving, foam parties but allow the activities like the monk's water sprinkling ceremony as well as other religious activities and the water pouring ceremony to pay respect to the elderly under the condition that the measures of D-M-H-T-T (Distancing, Mask wearing, Hand washing, Testing, and Thai Chana app using) as well as organizing the activities in the open area with good ventilation and avoiding the closed, poor ventilated area of the air-conditioned room. The CCSA also reiterated every activities operators to consider the scope of the activities especially for the activities within or having the marketplaces which need to have only one entrance and exit point and the temperature screening unit, and cross provinces travelling can be carried out in all area. With this, the 11th extension of the emergency decree period from April 1 to May 31, 2021 is also announced. For the relaxing on quarantine measures, the periods of relaxation are divided into 3 periods those are the first period, April 1 – June 30, 2021, the second period, July 1 –

September 30, 2021 which the number of quarantining days will be reduced from 14 to 10 days for both vaccinated and unvaccinated people, and when ready will be reduced to 7 days, and the third period starting from October 1, 2021 which will be no quarantine is some area that had reach the vaccinated target which is at least 70 percent of medical worker as well as people working in tourism within the area are vaccinated. The no quarantine measure will be open for those who travelled from the low-risk countries first. For those who travelled from the countries with the mutating of the SARS-CoV-2 strains occurred, the 14 days quarantine measure will still be applied.

- The Department of Disease Control informed about the risk when contacting merchants infected with COVID-19 that it depends on the distance, contact time length, and the masks. If both parties wear masks, even a fabric mask, the risk will greatly be reduced, from high risk to low risk. It is safe for buying things in a short time, keeping distance, applying alcohol gel after touching anything, before entering and leaving the area. If these are done regularly, it will be a good protection. Those who have any concern can self-observe the symptoms or contact the Department of Disease Control hotline number 1422 or ask for advice at the nearest hospital.
- Samut Sakhon Provincial Public Health Office, Ministry of Public Health together with Regional Medical Sciences Center 5, randomly caught 9 samples of shrimp which were 5 white shrimp and 4 lobsters from 5 rafts. The Laboratory result did not detect COVID-19. However, there will be random check-ups to make sure that shrimp is safe. In conclusion, buying shrimp to cook for food is safe from COVID-19. However, it is necessary to eat cooked food because the shrimp may contain other bacteria. Eating cooked food will assure that there will be no infections, including COVID-19.
- Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) revealed the result of COVID-19 vaccination to the high risk contacts at Bangkae Market on 18 March 2021, which was the second day of the vaccine service. 1,000 people have registered to screen, 961 people have been vaccinated and 39 people are not provided the vaccine due to contraindications as per doctor's discretion. 3 people have small adverse events. The total number of people who received the COVID-19 vaccination both days are 1,666 people and the COVID-19 vaccine service would be provided until 21 March 2021 at 08.00-18.00, at the Sirisattanon Market. The second doses of COVID-19 vaccine will be given to people on 7-11 April 2021.
- Phetchaburi province asked for people's cooperation in answering the electronic questionnaire that will be used as an information for consideration of relaxation measures during the Songkran Festival. In addition, 4 new infected cases were found by active case finding of risky persons. The total number of tests are 13,939 cases, 13,882 cases are negative, 10 cases are waiting for the results. The total number of cumulative cases are 71, 47 have recovered and 24 cases are under treatment.
- Yala province asked passengers who travel by train No.171, 14th bogie, Bangkok-Sungai Kolok, in Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat to report to the local health worker urgently. Since it was found that some passengers are linked to people at risk of COVID-19 infection from Bang Khae market traveled with the train. The provincial health office has proceeded to expedite searching for the mentioned person. If

people haven't come to report themselves, they are asked to observe their symptoms and quarantine for 14 days at home. If people realized that they were at risk of infection, they should seek testing with health care workers or the hospital in their community.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

The global COVID-19 situation found more than 122 million cumulative cases, with the number of daily cases showing slightly higher since mid- February 2021, especially in Europe and South America but still at level below 500,000 people per day. The number of daily deaths tends to decline to below ten thousand people per day, while death cases are more than 2.7 million. In Thailand, 23,357 infected cases were found with the new outbreak. More than two-thirds are from proactive screening. Most of which are foreign workers and the number of people infected daily in the country is likely to increase from last week from a new cluster from the market in Bang Khae district and Bangkok detention center for foreigners at the Immigration Office. Today, most of 100 new infected cases were found from proactive screening in Samut Sakhon and Bangkok which were linked to the Bang Khae Market cluster. The number of detected cases is decreasing from the previous day and this indicates that the outbreak was started to be under control. The spread may occur in some central provinces this week but tends to be controlled like the market cluster in Pathum Thani province earlier this month. Stronger surveillance activities in the group of respiratory patients and active case finding in some central provinces such as Bangkok and nearby provinces should be implemented ,while people are requested to strictly comply with the preventive measures including 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.