

Thailand situation update on 22 March 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	123,903,665	412,547	
Deaths	2,728,644		2.20%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number*
Total number of new cases	73
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	7
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	0
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	22
• Cases found from active case finding	44
Total number of confirmed cases	27,876
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	2,357
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	627
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	9,400
• Cases found from active case finding	15,492
Total number of confirmed cases	27,876
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals	26,663 (95.65%) 65
• Undergoing treatment	1,112 (4.02%)
• Deaths - New deaths	91 (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) 	8,052,372
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People renewing their passports at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana 	491,078
Total number of laboratory tests	1,663,330
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	1,235,920
<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	1,235,920
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	4,717
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (289,993 cases in private hospitals, and 941,122 cases in public hospitals) 	1,231,115
<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 Ministry of Public Health announced the discovery of new COVID-19 cluster consisted of 17 infected people living in the construction workers camp in Samut Sakhon, stated that the risk factors of the camp are it crowdedness, as well as the stuffs and bathroom sharing, and the disease prevention measure violation such as going out to socialize in high-risk areas. Since some of the infected people show no symptoms they can become the spreader who brings the virus back to the camp. From this discovery, the MOPH will also check for the infection in other camps, find all the possible risk factors, and increase the surveillance level in some areas. According to the fact that most of the patients from the new outbreak are showing no symptoms, the MOPH suggests that people should be more cautious, wear a mask, keep distancing and avoid the crowded area. Despite the large number of COVID-19 vaccinations happening abroad, new infections in those countries are still relatively high and in some cases the new lockdown was announced due to people there becoming less cautious after being vaccinated. So even if people in Thailand had started to get vaccinated, disease prevention and control measures are still highly recommended.

- Centre for COVID-19 situation administration (CCSA) announced relaxation of quarantine measures for travelers entering Thailand, phase 1, effective April 1, 2021 onwards, as follows: 1) The quarantine period shall be reduced from 14 days to 10 days, whereby travelers are required to test for COVID-19 two times during day 3 – 5 and 9 - 10 of quarantine. This reduction in quarantine period does not include travelers from countries with mutated strain of the Coronavirus. Those travelers are still required to be quarantined for 14 days as before. 2) While undergoing quarantine, travelers will be allowed to engage in leisure activities, according to the specified time and conditions, namely indoor fitness room exercise, swimming, outdoor exercise, and ordering goods and food from outside, 3) Non-Thai travelers no longer need to present a Fit to Fly Certificate at check-in. It is sufficient to present a laboratory result indicating that COVID-19 is not detected, using RT-PCR method, issued no longer than 72 hours before departure. Thai people can choose to present either a Fit to Fly Certificate or RT-PCR (negative) test results.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

In the past 1 week (March 15 -21, 2021), a total of 876 infected cases were found, divided into 825 cases in the country, accounting for 94.18 percent, and 51 of those traveling from abroad or 5.82%. Male to female ratio is 1: 1.19, average age is 36 years (minimum 7 months, maximum 80 years), 41.78% are Thai nationals, 39.61% are Myanmar and 18.61% are other Nationalities. Most infected cases came from a mass infection in the community group such as the factory market (69.40%) and from close contact of the previous infected cases (8.33%). Which in a group of infected people with a history of getting diseases within the country has been shown in various provinces. The top 5 provinces with the highest number of infected cases under treatment in the hospital were Bangkok Samut Sakhon, Pathum Thani, Samut Prakarn and Nakhon Pathom. Therefore, key risk factors of spreading in last week are still infection in communities or being at risk places, particularly in markets. People and establishments are requested to comply with preventive measures such as wearing masks, washing hands, reducing unnecessary travel, avoiding crowded places, scanning Thai Chana or Mor Chana applications, keeping close eyes on the situation and observing their symptoms for 14 days after visiting market reported cases. If people have fever, cough, sore throat, running nose, anosmia or loss of taste, they need to immediately see doctors and reveal their history travelling as much as possible.