

Thailand situation update on 28 March 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	127,366,258	595,501	
Deaths	2,790,879		2.19%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number*
Total number of new cases	77
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	19
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	0
• Cases found in Thailand through the public health service system (Local transmission)	32
• Cases found from active case finding	26
Total number of confirmed cases	28,734
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	2,420
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	627
• Cases found in Thailand through the public health service system (Local transmission)	9,647
• Cases found from active case finding	16,040
Total number of confirmed cases	28,734
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals	27,239 (94.80%)
- Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals	103
• Undergoing treatment	1,401 (4.87%)
• Deaths	94 (0.33%)
- New deaths	1

Screening and PUI	Total Number
Total number of People Screened	
• Ports of entry (Airports, ground ports, and seaports)	8,096,058
• People renewing their passports at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana	498,861
Total number of laboratory tests	1,685,802
• People who met the PUI criteria	1,258,392
• From active case finding	15,834
• Returnees in quarantine facilities/centers	81,676
• People who did not meet the PUI criteria	329,900
Total number of people who met the criteria of PUI	1,258,392
• Detected from ports of entry	4,895
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (292,485 cases in private hospitals, and 960,924 cases in public hospitals)	1,253,409
• 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 revealed the case of a private hospital that had an advertisement to reserve COVID-19 vaccines for a fee of 500 baht per person. This is considered a violation of the law, Section 38, paragraph one of the Sanatorium Act, B.E. 2541. The Ministry of Public Health has not yet allowed medical services, or hospitals including the private sector to allow people to book vaccines because it is still in an emergency situation. If you see an advertisement, please bring evidence to inform the Ministry of Public Health, Department of Health Service Support or the provincial health office where the medical facility is located immediately.
- The Ministry of Public Health emphasizes wearing a mask for people traveling to their hometowns during the Songkran festival to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to the elderly in their families. People who travel, especially those from high-risk areas should wear a mask at all times and wash their hands often. If there are any abnormal symptoms, please notify the health care workers immediately.

- The Department of Disease Control reported that from the DC Poll from 9 - 22 March 2021, wearing a mask when having a fever and respiratory symptoms decreased from 95 percent to 84.6 percent. For those who had no fever or respiratory symptoms, wearing a mask reduced to 74.5 percent, in line with the data of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation in which the AI system was used to explore mask-wearing percentages. It was found that the percent of people who wear a mask correctly was reduced to 94.36 percent. People are asked to pay more attention to wearing masks as an important measure in disease prevention and control, especially, during this Songkran festival. People have to ensure 100% of the public wear face masks and wear them properly, covering both the mouth and nose.
- The announcement by Thailand's Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) stated its aims to stimulate the economy and is preparing for tourist travel. Thailand will reduce the quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days for people who returned from abroad starting on 1 April 2021. This announcement is under the condition that the foreigner who would like to reduce the quarantine days must have a COVID-19 free certificate. However, for people coming from the countries reporting the South Africa coronavirus variant, the quarantine period remains for 14 days i.e. South Africa, Republic of Zimbabwe, the Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Botswana, the Republic of Zambia, the Republic of Kenya, the Republic of Rwanda, the Republic of Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Ghana, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

From the global COVID-19 situation analysis, it was found that several countries, especially in South East Asia still have ongoing outbreaks, where the daily number of infected cases has increased since early March. Several countries had reports of variants especially the UK, Brazil and South Africa subtypes. The daily number of deaths has increased as well. Almost all of the outbreaks were related with events or public areas and led to super spreading events. In Thailand, the daily number of infected cases is stable but may be spread to other provinces especially during the Songkran festival as a lot of people will go back to their hometowns as some people may be infected without symptoms. Therefore, the people who need to travel to their hometowns should avoid staying in risk areas before traveling for at least 14 days, wear masks, and frequently wash hands. If people have a fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, anosmia and loss of taste, they need to see a doctor immediately, and when staying with relatives at their hometowns they must be aware of spreading disease, wear masks, frequently washing hands, and avoid conversation between eating and other risk activities.