

Thailand situation update on 21 April 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	143,632,445	882,464	
Deaths	3,060,026		2.13%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number*
Total number of new cases	1,458
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	4
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	0
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	1,346
• Cases found from active case finding	108
Total number of confirmed cases	46,643
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	2,617
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	629
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	22,583
• Cases found from active case finding	20,814
Total number of confirmed cases	46,643
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals	29,371 (62.97%)
- Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals	413
• Undergoing treatment	17,162 (36.79%)
• Deaths	110 (0.24%)
- New deaths	2

Type of Screened People and PUI	Total Number
Total number	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ports of entry (Airports, ground ports, and seaports) 	8,264,464
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People renewing their passports at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana 	527,059
Total number of laboratory tests	1,895,467
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	1,468,057
<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	1,468,057
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	4,986
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (323,464 cases in private hospitals, and 1,139,519 cases in public hospitals) 	1,462,983
<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

- Bangkok is preparing to accommodate the increasing number of COVID-19 cases. The second level of the support plan is to establish “hospitels” by turning hotels into symptom surveillance areas or specific wards for people with no or little symptoms to be treated. The guidelines for the conversion of a hotel to a hospitel, as implemented by the Ministry of Public Health, state that it must be a hotel with more than 30 rooms. The criteria for hotels to convert to hospitals can be found at the link: (20 April 2021 https://www.matichon.co.th/local/news_2681977).

- With integration between the Social Security Office, Ministry of Labor, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Ministry of Interior, and National Health Security Office, there has been active testing for COVID-19 for the insured under the “Laborers... We Fight Together” project. The goal is to cover the insured people under Statute no. 33, 39, and 40 and they can enroll at the Thai-Japan Bangkok Youth Center, Din Daeng, Bangkok. Moreover, they plan to expand this activity to other red zone provinces such as Pathum Thani, Nonthaburi, Chonburi, Chiang Mai, Samut Prakan, etc. There is also a hotline at 1506 (press 6) with 10 lines every day from 8 am – 5 pm. To communicate with the insured who have limited access to COVID-19 testing or hospitals if they are infected. (20 April 2021, more information: <https://mgronline.com/uptodate/detail/9640000037545>)
- Ayutthaya Province Provincial Communicable Diseases Committee issued an order to close the province's central farmers' market and the shrimp market for 7 days from 21 - 27 April 2021. Active screening will be implemented on April 23, 2021 to accelerate the control of the pandemic (20 April 2021, link: <https://tna.mcot.net/region-679112>)
- Rayong provincial authorities have issued orders to close places at risk of COVID-19 including nurseries (except permanent home services), water parks, playgrounds, amusement parks and school areas and all educational institutions, which are not permitted to be operated for studying or organizing mass gatherings. Online learning, foster care facilities, organizing events for public benefit, and activities organized by the government are permitted but have to be proposed to the provincial governor for permission. Anyone who violates or fails to follow announcements or orders shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand baht or both. The effective date is on April 21, 2021.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

The global situation of COVID-19 shows more than 143 million cases have been confirmed. There is a growing outbreak in India and outbreaks remain high in North and South America, and Europe. The daily number of new cases has increased to more than 700,000 cases per day since mid-February 2021. The number of deaths is still lower than 15,000 people per day and the total number of deaths is more than 3,000,000. The cumulative number of infections in the new outbreak wave in Thailand is 17,780 cases. The number of daily infections in the country has been stable over the past few days about 1,500 cases per day. Today, there were 1,458 new cases in 67 provinces. Most of the infected cases were found in Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Chonburi, Nonthaburi and Rayong and most of them visited entertainment venues, pubs, karaoke bars, or had contact with those who visited those locations. In addition, the number of deaths began to increase as a result of the widespread outbreak during the Songkran festival. All the fatalities had underlying disease or were elderly. For the vaccination situation in Thailand, more than 700,000 doses have been administered. The provinces should increase surveillance among patients with symptoms that are compatible with the definition, continue active case finding, investigate risk locations and risk factors, communicate with people to improve disease prevention measures like wearing face masks, washing hands, working from home, reducing unnecessary travel especially in high risk areas that have large numbers of people and organizing healthcare facilities for respiratory disease patients in groups with underlying disease or among the elderly for rapid diagnosis and treatment to prevent death.