

Thailand situation update on 21 August 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	211,620,539	681,498	
Deaths	4,429,426		2.09%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number
Total number of new cases	20,571
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	14
• Cases found in prisons	235
• Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission)	17,574
• Cases found from active case finding (Local transmission)	2,748
Total number of confirmed cases	1,030,281
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals	818,964(79.49%)
- Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals	23,159
• Undergoing treatment	202,230 (19.63%)
• Deaths	9,087(0.88%)
- New deaths	261

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

Screening, Testing, and PUI	Total Number
Total number of people screened	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ports of entry (Airports, ground ports, and seaports) 	8,976,498
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People renewing their passports at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana 	651,990
Total number of laboratory tests	3,331,696
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who met the PUI criteria 	2,902,214
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returnees in quarantine facilities/centers 	83,748
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People who did not meet the PUI criteria 	345,734
Total number of people who met the criteria of PUI	2,902,214
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from ports of entry 	6,143
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (810,772 cases in private hospitals, and 2,085,211 cases in public hospitals) 	2,895,983
<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)

Characteristics of Deaths (9,087 deaths)	Wave: 1 Jan - 14 Dec 2020 (60 deaths)	Wave: 15 Dec 2020 - 31 Mar 2021 (34 deaths)	Wave: 1 April 2021 - now (8,993 deaths)
Case Fatality Rate (CFR) in each age group			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 - 39 years old 	0.20%	0.02%	0.12%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 - 59 years old 	2.10%	0.02%	0.93%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60+ years old 	6.50%	2.60%	7.04%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <1 year old (2 deaths) 			
Percentage of COVID-19 deaths that consist of elderly patients, patients with underlying diseases including obesity, or pregnant patients			
	64%	100%	89%
Average number of days between the onset of symptoms and the date of receiving treatment (Minimum-Maximum)			
	3.5 (0 - 19)	1.2 (0 - 8)	3.2 (0 - 45)

3. Thailand Implementations

The Pharmacy Council of Thailand has put in place a system for pharmacies to distribute free COVID-19 Antigen Testing (ATK) kits to at-risk individuals across the country. It includes families with infected individuals or traveling to infected areas. The kits will also be distributed to people with symptoms similar to COVID-19, such as cough, fever, etc. The favipiravir is also distributed concurrently through pharmacies. Pharmacies are available to support home isolation for those at risk who have been tested positive or are sick.

Chulabhorn Royal Academy announced the COVID-19 vaccine services policy between August and October 2021 as follows;

1. Allow only individuals who never receive a COVID-19 vaccine and will not be vaccinated against booster vaccines.
2. Vaccinate as per manufacturer's guidelines and do not cross the vaccine.
3. Don't let the choice of vaccine be made.
4. Change duration between first shot on second shot in Sinovac to 2-3 weeks and 4 to 6 weeks for AstraZeneca.
5. Vaccination of all nationalities residing in Thailand.

The Department of Disease Control of the Ministry of Public Health and Pfizer Thailand have signed a purchase agreement for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. The purchase involves a further 10 million doses of the 20 million doses already signed on July 20, 2021. It will bring the total to 30 million doses that will begin to be delivered in the fourth quarter of this year.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

According to the COVID-19 vaccination program of August 19, 2021, 19,143,574 individuals, or 27.49% of the total population in Thailand, received at least one dose of the vaccine. 5,503,882 individuals, or 7.90% of the total population, completed the vaccine program. On average, 400,000 people get vaccinated each day. If the daily vaccinations are still stable, 55 million people will receive the first dose by this year. Currently, 519,604 persons are already receiving the 3rd shots of the vaccine.

Furthermore, according to the COVID-19 mortality analysis from April 1 to August 19, 2021, there were 21 deaths with at least two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. 16 deaths were given two doses for more than 14 days before getting sick. Five deaths received two doses in less than 14 days prior to getting sick. When considering a group of deaths that received two doses for more than 14 days, 15 cases had underlying diseases and four were last vaccinated in April. Five fatalities were recorded in May, six in June and one in August. Therefore, there was a need to expedite the process of distributing second doses of vaccine to people. It should focus on older people, groups of people suffering from underlying diseases and obesity, and pregnant women to reduce severe symptoms and mortality.