

Thailand situation update on 16 December 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	272,560,308	749,586	
Deaths	5,347,857		1.96%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number
Number of new confirmed cases	3,684
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported) 	21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in prisons 	144
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission) 	3,663
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found from active case finding (Local transmission) 	83
7-day average percentage of daily positive PCR tests (confirmed cases)	6.86%
Total number of confirmed cases	2,181,960
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals 	2,115,232 (96.94%) 4,531
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing treatment 	45,442 (3.06%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths - New deaths 	21,286 (0.98%) 26
Daily number of new vaccinations (Doses)	348,899
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First dose 	83,859
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second dose 	143,322
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third dose 	121,718
Total number of vaccinations (Doses)	97,090,688
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First dose 	49,637,161
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second dose 	42,956,404

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• Third dose	4,497,123
Number of people screened at Ports of Entry (Airports, Ground Ports, Seaports)	9,781,004
Number of people screened when renewing their passports (at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana)	765,715

Characteristics of Deaths (21,286 deaths)	Wave: 1 Jan - 14 Dec 2020 (60 deaths)	Wave: 15 Dec 2020 - 31 Mar 2021 (34 deaths)	Wave: 1 April 2021 - now (21,192 deaths)
Case Fatality Rate (CFR) in each age group			
• 15 - 39 years old	0.20%	0.02%	0.09%
• 40 - 59 years old	2.10%	0.02%	0.75%
• 60+ years old	6.50%	2.60%	5.39%
• < 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%	90%

3. Thailand Implementations

- The Center for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) has announced the measures for the 6 types of travelers entering the Kingdom of Thailand including 1) Persons permitted to enter the Kingdom for economic benefits together with public health security according to the government's country reopening plan, 2) Persons who enter into the tourism pilot zones or to participate in activities according to the government's policy, 3) Persons who are exempted or are determined, permitted, or invited by the Prime Minister or the designated head of the emergency situation administration, to enter the Kingdom as necessary or persons of the foreign governments or international organizations to perform their duties in the Kingdom including their spouses, parents or children, that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs gives permission pertaining to necessity, 4) Good transportation persons as necessary who when have finished their mission should depart the Kingdom rapidly 5) Vehicle operators and crew who need to enter the Kingdom pursuant to their mission, with a clear scheduled time of departure 6) Persons who enter the Kingdom under the disease prevention and control measures in government designated quarantine facilities must have the vaccine certificate and the COVID-19 testing by RT-PCR before entering the Kingdom.
- The Ministry of Transport has issued strict safety measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 for the New Year's festival between December 29, 2021 and January 4,



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2022. It has established water safety centers across the country in parallel with stringent measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- The National Vaccine Institute (NVI) has issued a recommendation on vaccination for people with impaired immunity, who usually have less immunity despite full dose vaccination than the general population, to receive additional dose within 1 month or shorter to increase their immune response.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

For the global COVID-19 situation, there have been more than 272 million cumulative cases. The daily cases have been increasing since mid-October to be more than 6 hundred thousand people per day. Most has been the result of case surging in the European region. Countries with many outbreaks include France, the United States, United Kingdom, France, and Germany. In the ASEAN region, the overall case situation has been decreasing except for Vietnam that there are more than 15,000 cases per day.

In Thailand, the third current wave (since April 2021), there have been 2,153,097 cumulative cases. Today (16 December) there are 3,684 new cases. The overall trend of daily new cases has been decreasing in all regions of the country to be around 3,000 cases per day. Most of the new cases are found in the Central and Southern regions. Provinces with more cases include Bangkok, Samut Prakan, Chonburi, Samut Sakhon and Songkhla. The cumulative number of deaths is 21,192 representing a Case Fatality Rate (CFR) of 0.98%. Most deaths are the elderly and people with chronic underlying diseases who are not vaccinated.

As for the vaccination situation in Thailand, more than 98.4 million doses have been administered to the people. More than 43.8 million people have received 2 or more doses of vaccine. Provinces with the highest coverage of people receiving 2 doses or more are Bangkok, Phuket, and Chonburi. Overall, there are still many provinces where vaccination coverage is less than 50%. And as vaccines are more effective in preventing illness and death rather than infection, re-opening the country and relaxing measures to allow more activities, therefore, still being a risk of the disease spreading and increasing in the number of infected people. However, most infected people will not have serious symptoms. Therefore, it is forecasted that the trend of infected people during this period will be slowly declining and will likely remain over 3,000 cases per day.

Therefore, there should be continued surveillance among patients whose symptoms are in line with the COVID-19 definition, investigation of large-scale outbreaks to identify risk sites and risk factors and rapid control of the disease including risk communication to the public to maintain the intensity of disease prevention measures despite receiving the vaccine. The self-protections are mask wearing, frequent hand washing, working from home if possible, reducing unnecessary travel especially to crowded places, and getting vaccinated when available, including the booster doses.