

Thailand situation update on 25 December 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	279,399,028	816,176	
Deaths	5,410,985		1.94%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number
Number of new confirmed cases	2,766
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported) 	63
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in prisons 	57
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission) 	2,703
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found from active case finding (Local transmission) 	59
7-day average percentage of daily positive PCR tests (confirmed cases)	5.27%
Total number of confirmed cases	2,207,438
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total recovered and discharged from hospitals - Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals 	2,148,757 (97.34%) 3,805
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing treatment 	37,123 (1.68%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths - New deaths 	21,558 (0.98%) 30
Daily Number of new Vaccinations (Doses)	265,835
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First dose 	31,170
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second dose 	102,258
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third dose 	132,407
Total number of Vaccinations (Doses)	102,301,954
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First dose 	50,956,447
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second dose 	45,202,632

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

• Third dose	6,142,875
Number of people screened at Ports of Entry (Airports, Ground Ports, Seaports)	9,900,124
Number of people screened when renewing their passports (at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana)	774,908

Characteristics of Deaths (21,558 deaths)	Wave: 1 Jan - 14 Dec 2020 (60 deaths)	Wave: 15 Dec 2020 - 31 Mar 2021 (34 deaths)	Wave: 1 April 2021 - now (21,464 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%	5.41%
• < 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 Ministry of Public Health of the European Union (EU) has approved the Thailand Digital Health Pass on Mor Prom Application which will be used to enter the countries from January 2022. There are more than 60 countries that have system connections with the European Union (EU).
- The Royal Thai Navy introduced the project called “ Fill Happiness for Thai people according to the new way of life from the heart of soldiers” as a present to people on the occasion of New Year. 67 service points have been set up in the Navy areas across the country providing essential services such as car inspection before traveling, the prevention of Covid-19, the water disaster relief site etc., starting from December 24, 2021 onwards until the end of the New Year festival.
- Bangkok Metropolitan Administration announced preparation for the new wave of COVID-19 in 2022 by requiring all parties to strictly abide by the measures specified by the government. The vaccination of 1st to 3rd dose will be speeded up. Medical personnel who already received the 3rd jab for 6 months will get the 4th jab instantly. For the treatment part, 2,537 beds have been prepared, as well as personnel, equipment, hotline 1669, and coordination with various agencies in case patients are

to be isolated at home (HI) or sent to a Waiting Center (CI) to be admitted as soon as possible.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

On December 17, 2021, the World Health Organization adjusted the information related to Coronavirus Disease 2019, especially Omicron Strain that has been declared a variant of concern (VOC) on November 26, 2021. At the present, there are more than 103 countries that have reported the mentioned strains around the world. The spread of this Omicron strain is faster than Delta strain. In addition, the diagnosis with the PCR method and the Antigen Test Kit (ATK) can also be used to diagnose the disease. The difference of strain is shown in Figure 1. The information of Omicron strain in terms of the severity and the impact on the COVID-19 vaccine are still limited. The website of https://newsnodes.com/nu_tracker presented the characteristics of Omicron-type COVID-19 cases. The majority of cases were between the ages of 20-29 years (10.5%) followed by the age of 30-39 years (9.9%), 40. -49 years (5.7%) and 50-59 years (3.5%) respectively and females (19.6%) are more than male (16%) respectively. As of December 22, 2021, worldwide total 105,272 cases of the mentioned strain was reported with 16 deaths (0.015%), which is lower than the mortality rate from Delta strains. It can be said that the transmission rate of Omicron strain is relatively fast. While the nature of the infected cases is not different from the current infected cases but it has a lower mortality rate.

Table 2: Summary of phenotypic impacts* of variants of concern

WHO label	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Omicron
Transmissibility	Increased transmissibility ¹¹	Increased transmissibility ^{12,13}	Increased transmissibility ^{13,14}	Increased transmissibility ^{13,15,16}	No direct evidence for increased transmissibility.
Disease severity	Possible increased risk of hospitalization ^{17,18} , possible increased risk of severe disease and death ^{19,20}	Possible increased risk of hospitalization ¹⁸ , possible increased in-hospital mortality ²¹	Possible increased risk of hospitalization ¹⁸ , possible increased risk of severe disease ²²	Possible increased risk of hospitalization ^{23,24}	Not yet known. Clinical outcome data are under review.
Risk of reinfection	Neutralizing activity retained ²⁵ , risk of reinfection remains similar ²⁶	Reduction in neutralizing activity reported; T cell response elicited by D614G virus remains effective ²⁷	Moderate reduction in neutralizing activity reported ²⁸	Reduction in neutralizing activity reported ²⁹⁻³¹	Preliminary evidence suggests a possible increased risk of reinfection ³²
Impacts on diagnostics	Limited impact – S gene target failure (SGTF), no impact on overall result from multiple target RT-PCR; No impact on Ag RDTs observed ³³	No impact on RT-PCR or Ag RDTs observed ³¹	None reported to date	No impact on RT-PCR or Ag RDTs observed ³⁴	PCR continues to detect Omicron. Impact on Ag-RDTs is under investigation.

*Generalized findings as compared to previously/co-circulating variants. Based on emerging evidence, including non-peer-reviewed preprint articles and reports, all subject to ongoing investigation and revision.

Figure 1 : Table of COVID-19 strains

Reference

1. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Omicron Variant. Newsnodes.com Access date 22 Dec 2021.



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https://newsnodes.com/nu_tracker.

2. COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC. Worldometer. Access date 22 Dec 2021.

<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

3. Enhancing Readiness for Omicron (B.1.1.529): Technical Brief and Priority Actions for Member States. World Health Organization. 17 Dec 2021.

<https://worldhealthorganization.cmail19.com/t/d-l-ahrbjt-ttnutlylt-r/>