

Thailand situation update on 29 December 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	282,268,292	1,353,932	
Deaths	5,423,615		1.92%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number
Number of new confirmed cases	2,575
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported) 	116
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found in prisons 	40
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases infected in Thailand (Local transmission) 	2,360
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases found from active case finding (Local transmission) 	59
Total number of confirmed cases	2,217,287
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total recovered and discharged from hospitals 	2,162,138 (97.51%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals 	2,695
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing treatment 	33,502 (1.51%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	21,647 (0.98%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New deaths 	17
Total number of Vaccinations (Doses)	102,303,083
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First dose 	50,956,447
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second dose 	45,202,632
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third dose 	6,144,004
Number of people screened at Ports of Entry (Airports, Ground Ports, Seaports)	9,946,659
Number of people screened when renewing their passports (at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana)	779,082

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

Characteristics of Deaths (21,647 deaths)	Wave: 1 Jan - 14 Dec 2020 (60 deaths)	Wave: 15 Dec 2020 - 31 Mar 2021 (34 deaths)	Wave: 1 April 2021 - now (21,553 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 and Ministry of Transport have screened for COVID-19 using the Antigen Test Kit (ATK) free of charge for people who travel by public transportation at Mo Chit and Hua Lamphong stations From today - 3 January 2022.
- Nonthaburi Provincial Public Health Office has revealed the updated COVID-19 third dose vaccine that Bang Bua Thong Hospital has opened a walk-in for COVID-19 booster dose vaccination using Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines for the people's choices. The service has aimed for those who have received the vaccines as follows: 1. Sinovac + AstraZeneca, 2. Sinopharm + AstraZeneca, and 3. AstraZeneca + AstraZeneca.
- The Ministry of Public Health has proposed the Work From Home (WFH) measure and will assess the implementation results after January 4, 2022. This measure has been recommended during the New Year Festival as it would be more difficult to avoid the Omicron variant transmission when there are people gatherings. The WFH measure has been encouraged for both government and private sectors.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

Analysis of the COVID-19 situation has found that during the April wave (From April 1 to December 17, 2021) there were 21,504 deaths, accounting for 99.56% of the total deaths. The Case Fatality Rates (CFR) of each period were 1.14% (April 1 to May 31, 2021), 1.33.% (June 1 to July 31, 2021), 1.09% (August 1 to September 30, 2021), and 0.70% (October 1 to present). Most of the deaths were in the age group 60 years and over and those with chronic underlying diseases. During the last 3 months, the median age of the deceased has begun to rise from 66 - 68 years to 70 years and over. The mean time from onset of illness to death has decreased from 2.6 – 3.4 days to 1.9 days but the mean time from infection to



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death has increased from 12.1 – 12.4 days to 14.1 days. It can be concluded that the risk factors for deaths have remained unchanged including age factor and chronic underlying diseases. During the past 3 months, it was found that the SARS-CoV-2 has caused severe illness among the elderly aged 70 years and over as this vulnerable group has a high chance of contracting opportunistic pathogens. The recent overall decreasing CFR might be the result of most cases are the working age adults who mild symptoms. Therefore, the surveillance in the elderly needs to be monitored for fatality prevention. Moreover, it is still unclear how severe the Omicron variant is among the elderly as current infections are mostly found in the working-age population. However, based on the Delta variant, it causes severe illness in elderly people. Therefore, in order to prevent deaths among the elderly, it is necessary to focus risk communication on prevention of the disease spreading to the elderly especially during the upcoming long holiday season, as many infected persons might show no symptoms, unaware and cause widespread transmission. In addition, in order to reduce the risk of transmission, public relations on COVID-19 self-testing is also needed for self-monitoring before meeting with others or traveling to other provinces.