

Thailand situation update on 8 April 2020

1. International Situation

As of 8 April 2020, there were a total of 1,435,310 confirmed cases with 47,934 patients in critical condition and 82,210 COVID-19 deaths across more than 206 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong and Macau), and on cruise ships. The ten countries with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases include: the United States (400,549 cases), Spain (141,942), Italy (135,586), France (109,069), Germany (107,663), the People's Republic of China (82,807 cases, as well as 961 and 44 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively), Iran (62,589), England (55,242), Turkey (34,109) and Switzerland (22,328).

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 7 April 2020 showed that among 36,790 flights, there were a total of 4,392,982 passengers screened. Among those, 573 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). For the screening protocol outside the airports, 132,744 people from 1,442 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 7 April 2020 and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,774,519 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 7 April 2020. Between 30 January to 8 April 2020, a total of 148,6702 people who were renewing their passports were screened at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road. The total number of PUI from all ports is currently 575 people.

2.2 Situation of Patients with Suspected Symptoms of COVID-19 in Thailand.

On 8 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 1,660 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 28,709 PUI, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Results of screening implementation to detect patients with suspected symptoms of COVID-19

Situation	Total number of PUI
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	28,709
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 160, Don Mueang: 41, Phuket: 8, Chiang Mai: 3) 	573
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from seaports 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (Private hospitals: 2,196 cases, Government hospitals: 2,221 cases) 	28,046

Situation	Total number of PUI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	2,369
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	940
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	1,399
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	30
Severe cases (including undergoing treatment)	36
Characteristic of Infection in Confirmed cases	2,369
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	1,914
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Case 	455

In Thailand, there have been 2,369 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 940 patients have recovered and returned home, 30 patients have died, and 36 are in critical condition undergoing treatment.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 37 years old (ranging from 1 months to 86 years old). 1,242 cases are male, and 1,019 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.2:1) and gender data is not available for 108 cases.

In terms of nationality, 2,055 cases are Thai, 33 are Chinese, 22 are French, 20 are British, 11 are Japanese, 11 are Russian, nine are American, nine are Burmese, eight are Canadian, six are German, six are Italian, six are Swedish, five are Danish, five are Belgian, five are Swiss, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Indian, three are South Korean, three are Australian, two are Portuguese, two are Indonesian, two are Spanish, two are Cambodian, two are Malaysian, two are Filipino, two are Albanian, two are Kazakh, one is Uzbek, one is Iranian, one is a New Zealander, one is Finnish, one is Ukrainian, one is Laos, one is Taiwanese, one is Serbian, one is Liberian, one is Vietnamese, one is Hungarian, one is Mexican, one is Tunisian, one is Thai-Indian, one is Dutch, one is Brazilian, one is Israeli, one is Palestinian and data are not available for 105.

Underlying diseases were found in some of those cases including hypertension (17 cases), allergy (15 cases), diabetes (6 cases), other NCDs (11 cases), asthma (7 cases), dyslipidemia (2 cases), psoriasis (1 case), salivary gland cancer (1 case), paranasal sinus disease (1 case), COPD (1 case), multiple underlying diseases (15 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (1 case), thyroid disease (2 cases), thrombocytopenia (1 case), myasthenia gravis (1 case), valvular heart disease (1 case), rheumatoid arthritis (1 case). There were 2,284 cases reported without any underlying disease. 40 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports (one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan), 1,472 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 857 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as close contacts.

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Ministry of Public Health embraced royal words made by His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua regarding cooperation among the medical network working as the 'Thai team', as well as negotiating with all countries for the procurement of medical equipment to cope with COVID-19 epidemic.
- The Thailand Ministry of Culture officially announced canceling the Songkran festival to decrease the likelihood of COVID-19 spread. They released the guidelines regarding the cultural tradition including 1) refrain from creating festival events across the country, 2) refrain from returning back to hometowns, and 3) refrain from pouring water on the hands of revered elders and asking for blessings because it can lead to gatherings of people or cause people to enter risk areas.
- The Department of Fisheries opened more online channels to sell aquatic animal products, i.e. selling products on social media, and e-commerce platforms. The pre-order system will be available under the Fisheries Shop and the vendors/farmers who would like to sell products via the online platform must meet the following conditions:
 1. The farmers must be registered as an operator raising aquatic animals
 2. The farm must be certified in accordance with the standards of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)
- In Chonburi Province, the Governor serving as the chair of the Provincial Communicable Disease Control Committee agreed to officially close Pattaya from 2:00pm on April 9, 2020 onwards for 21 days. Entry and exit to Pattaya City is closed and checkpoints have been established to control movements of both vehicles and people. There are only five spots remaining for the entry/exit. If people are not living or working or conducting other necessary
- Bueng Kan province is the only province in the Northeastern region that has not found COVID-19 patients. There was an announcement to close the province and prohibit people from entering and exiting the province except for reasons relating to medical treatment, infection prevention, disease prevention and control, the shipment of necessary goods, consumption goods, agriculture products, livestock products, fodder, cooking gas, fuel, postal services and medical supplies from 7 April 2020 to 30 April 2020.

4. Risk Communication to the Public

- The measures including disease screening, isolation, quarantine or quarantine for observation to control and prevent the disease are implemented among passengers departing from areas or countries affected by COVID -19.
- In cases where it is necessary to make contact with other people, please wear a mask and maintain a distance of at least 1 meter between yourself and the other person when interacting with others. It is also recommended to only make contact with people for a short period.
- Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands.
- Do not use or share personal stuff with others (i.e. handkerchiefs, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions.
- Avoid eating raw food.