Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

WHO Thailand Situation Report

9 April 2021

SPOTLIGHT

- 559 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand bringing the total number of cases to date to 30,869. One new death was reported today.

- Of the cases reported in Thailand, 91.1% (28,128) have recovered, 0.3% (96) have died, and 8.6% (2,645) are receiving treatment or are in isolation (2,055 are in conventional hospitals and 590 in field hospitals).

- The 559 laboratory-confirmed cases reported today include:
  - 10 individuals who arrived recently in Thailand and were diagnosed in quarantine facilities.
  - 214 cases were linked to entertainment venues clusters in Bangkok (82 Thais, 3 Koreans), Chiang Mai (5 Thais), Chiang Rai (2 Thais), Lampang (1 Thai), Nan (1 Thai), Phisanulok (1 Thai), Phetchabun (2 Thais), Nonthaburi (2 Thais), Pathum Thani (3 Thais), Lopburi (1 Thai), Ratchaburi (1 Thai), Samut Sakhon (3 Thais), Phetchaburi (3 Thais), Kanchanaburi (1 Thai), Prachuab Khiri Khan (28 Thais), Chonburi (6 Thais, 1 Japanese), Samut Prakan (31 Thais), Rayong (3 Thais), Chachoengsao (2 Thais), Chantaburi (3 Thais), Trat (1 Thai), Sa Kaew (6 Thais), Samut Songkhram (1 Thai), Khon Kaen (5 Thais), Mahasarakham (1 Thai), Udon Thani (6 Thais), Ubon Ratchathani (6 Thais), Surat Thani (1 Thai), and Phuket (2 Thais).
  - 31 cases were close contact of confirmed cases linked to entertainment cluster: Nonthaburi (3 Thais), Pathum Thani (1 Thai), Ratchaburi (1 Thai), Prachuab Khiri Khan (1 Thai), Samut Sakhon (1 Thai), Chonburi (8 Thais), Sa Kaew (5 Thais), Samut Prakan (5 Thais), Chantaburi (1 Thai), Nakhon Ratvhasima (4 Thais), Phuket (1 Thai).
  - 124 cases were not linked to entertainment venues clusters: Bangkok (40 Thais, 1 Iraqi, 1 Myanmar national, 1 Lao, 1 French), Chiang Mai (10 Thais), Nakhon Sawan (1 Thai), Nonthaburi (4 Thais, 1 Myanmar national), Pathum Thani (7 Thais), Saraburi (1 Thai), Phetchaburi (1 Thai), Khon Kaen (1 Thai), Nakhon Patom (1 Thai), Chonburi (5 Thais, 2 Japanese), Udon Thani (4 Thais), Nakhon Ratvhasima (2 Thais), Buriram (8 Thais), Chaiyaphum (2 Thais), Chumphon (4 Thais), Sa Kaew (2 Thais), Samut Sakhon (2 Thais, 3 Myanmar nationals), Samut Prakan (2 Thais, 6 Thais), Lopburi (2 Thais), Ratchaburi (2 Thais), Rayong (3 Thais), Surat Thani (3 Thais), Songkhla (5 Thais).
  - 32 cases are under investigation: Bangkok (9 Thais), Chiang Mai (1 Thai), Pathum Thani (1 Thai), Saraburi (1 Thai), Chonburi (5 Thais, 1 Japanese, 1 Chinese), Sa Kaew (3 Thais), Samut Prakan (6 Thais), Chantaburi (1 Thai), Chumphon (1 Thai), Phuket (1 Thai), Songkhla (1 Thai).
  - 148 cases identified through active case finding in Bangkok (128 Thais, 1 Lao, 1 Filipino), Chonburi (17 Thais), Prachuab Khiri Khan (1 Thai).

- Of the 549 cases acquired in Thailand, 9 were detected in Samut Sakhon, 266 in Bangkok and 274 in other provinces.
UPDATE FROM THE CCSA

Testing at private hospitals
Many private hospitals reached their testing capacity. This issue emerged because of the existing criteria, which states that, if any hospital detects positive cases, they must admit the patients. To solve this issue, Ministry of Public Health and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration are setting up hospital (hotels adapted to provide basic care and observation for recuperating patients after hospital discharge) and field hospitals to accommodate this case load.

Vaccine allocation
The government reiterates that it has no restrictions for the private sector to import vaccines. According to the original plan, the government can cover vaccination for 31 million of the Thai population (Sinovac and AstraZeneca), plus an additional 4 million that emerged for ‘urgent use’ during the new outbreak.

Control measures
- As of midnight tonight, entertainment venues including bars, pubs, karaoke bars and massage parlors in 41 provinces where COVID-19 cases have been reported will be closed for 14 days. If the situation changes in other provinces, i.e. if clusters emerge, the governor has the authority to close the premises. This does not apply to restaurants.
- Situations will vary according to each province, therefore, the governor may propose to the CCSA to consider applying additional measures.
- Officers (Ministry of Interior, local authorities) will step up inspection efforts at premises not categorized as ‘entertainment venues’.
- Collaboration by the private sector and the general public is strongly required.
- Reports on the COVID-19 situation during Songkran Holiday will take place at the MOPH at 15:00 hrs. daily.

EXPLAINER: Increasing Transmissibility of the B 1 1 7 SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern (VoC)

Explaner: Increasing Transmissibility of the B 1 1 7 SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern (VoC)
Currently the three known SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern including the B.1.1.7 variant recently identified in Thailand, have shown to be highly transmissible and once found within communities have tended to result in rapid ‘explosive’ growth. Once introduced these VoC’s have tended to quickly become the dominant circulating strain, overtaking pre-existing circulating strains. In Cambodia the number of cases increased more than 6-fold from when the first B.1.1.7 VoC cases were reported in the middle of February to now. At that time the B.1.1.7 variant was found in around 80 countries. By the end of March that same variant was in 130 countries. In Thailand similar rapid increases are currently being observed.

As the table illustrates, in the last week daily increases have increased nearly 10-fold from 58 cases last Friday to 559 this Friday (this is all cases including the B 1 1 7 VoC). These increases place extra pressure on health service’s ability to respond, both to increasing COVID-19 demand but also the delivery of existing hospital services that COVID-19 can overtake.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total (Surveillance, Case Finding &amp; Quarantine)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th Apr (Friday)</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Apr (Thursday)</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Apr (Wednesday)</td>
<td>334</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th Apr (Tuesday)</td>
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<td>5th Apr (Monday)</td>
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<td>4th Apr (Sunday)</td>
<td>96</td>
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<td>3rd Apr (Saturday)</td>
<td>84</td>
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<td>2nd Apr (Friday)</td>
<td>58</td>
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WHAT WHO IS DOING TO SUPPORT THAILAND

WHO Thailand supports the Royal Thai Government through the Ministry of Public Health, sharing information on developments, guidelines and scientific updates. WHO also supports the wider UN response, including working with key partners to support migrant populations in Thailand. WHO also provides information and advice to staff of the UN system in Thailand.

USEFUL LINKS

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The Thailand COVID19 situation report is available in Thai and English, please visit

For regular updates on WHO’s response in Thailand, please visit

For global figures and technical advice from WHO, please visit

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