# Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Data as reported by the CCSA mid-day press briefing



29 December 2020

# **WHO Thailand Situation Report**









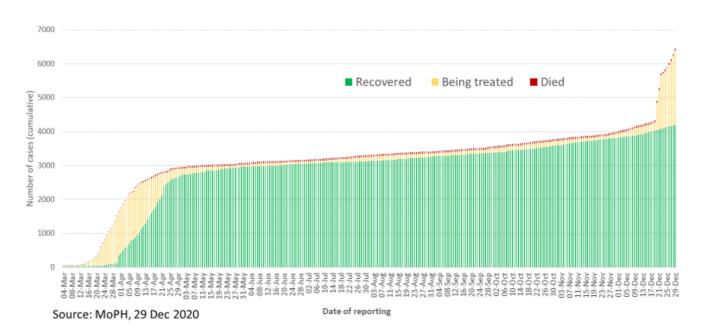


THAILAND SITUATION UPDATE

## **SPOTLIGHT**

- On the 29<sup>th</sup> of December 2020, 155 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were reported by the Ministry of Public Health. The total number of cases reported in Thailand is currently 6,440
- Of these cases, 65 % (4,184) have recovered, 1% (61) have died (one new death was reported today) and 34 % (2,195) are still receiving treatment.
- The 155 laboratory-confirmed cases reported today include 10 individuals diagnosed in quarantine facilities
- The 155 new cases reported today also include 134 cases classified as 'domestic transmission', as follows
  - 12 cases are linked to the Samut Sakhon cluster including Samut Sakhon (4), Nakhon Pathom (5), Samut Songkram (2) and Nakhon Ratchasima (1)
  - 2 cases are linked to the Rayong cluster, including Nakon Pathom (1), Nonthaburi (1)
  - 17 cases are linked to entertainment venues, occupational risk and contact with confirmed cases, including Bangkok (11) Nakhon Pathom (4), Pathum Thani (1) and Uttaradit (1)
  - 103 cases are under investigation, including Bangkok (3), Nakhon Pathom (5), Lampang (1), Rayong (56), Chonburi (28), Chantaburi (3) and Samut Prakarn (7)
- The remaining 11 cases reported today are in migrant workers in Samut Sakhon who were identified through contact tracing and active case finding.
- Locally transmitted COVID-19 cases related to the Samut Sakhon event have now been reported in 45 Provinces
- It is important that members of the public continue to follow preventive measures including distancing, regular handwashing, avoiding touching the face, wearing masks when visiting crowded places and coughing only into a folded elbow or a tissue (which should be disposed of safely).

# COVID-19 cases in Thailand, by date of reporting



### COVID-19 and SCHOOLS

Studies and experience have helped us learn more about the role of children in transmitting COVID-19. Evidence shows:

- COVID-19 is reported much less frequently in children than adults, although children of all ages can be infected and spread the virus to others
- There is less spread of the virus causing COVID-19 among children under 10 years old
- Children appear to have milder disease than adults in general, though serious infections can occur

School closures affect children in many ways

- Disruption of education and other school-based services can have long-lasting impacts on children's mental health and social development.
- Many schools are unable to offer remote education or alternate strategies; not all families are able to support remote learning (due either to parent/caregiver skills or time availability)
- Keeping children at home affects the ability of parents to work, introducing other risks, such as income loss

Decisions to close schools should carefully weigh risks and consider the local COVID-19 situation

- Infection rates in the community should drive the decision to open or close schools. Evidence to date shows that schools being open does not lead to outbreaks of COVID-19 in the community when infection rates in the community are low
- Given evidence that risk of infection increases with older children, consideration can be given to keeping elementary schools open in a given context
- When there is COVID-19 in the community, preventive and protective measures in schools are important in avoiding outbreaks and protecting children
- Adult staff are at particular risk of acquiring and transmitting COVID-19, and should stay vigilant for exposure both inside and outside the school

#### More information:

- COVID-19 transmission in schools (English)
- The Guideline for Schools in Prevention of COVID-19 Transmission (Thai)
- Manual for the Surveillance and Follow-up including Incident Action Plan in Response to COVID-19 Transmission in School Settings (Thai)



### WHAT WHO IS DOING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THAILAND

WHO Thailand supports the Royal Thai Government through the Ministry of Public Health, sharing information on key 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.



- 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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For latest updates and resources, please visit:

www.who.int/thailand





