Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Data as reported by the CCSA mid-day press briefing



14 January 2021

WHO Thailand Situation Report







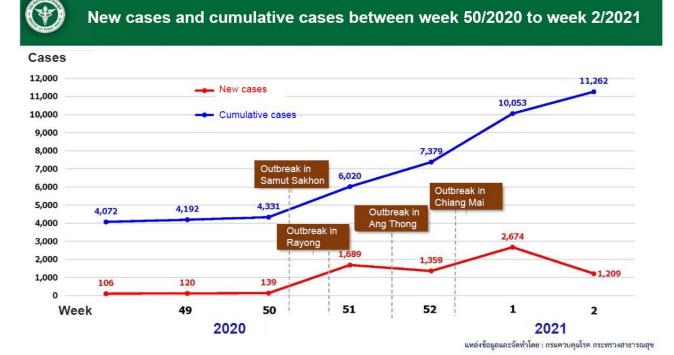




THAILAND SITUATION UPDATE

SPOTLIGHT

- On the 14th of January 2021, 271 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand (MoPH), bringing the total number of cases to date to 11,262.
- Of these, 68% (7,660) have recovered, 0.6% (69) have died, and 31.4% (3,533) are still receiving treatment or under isolation. **Two new deaths were reported today**.
- The 271 laboratory-confirmed cases reported include 11 individuals who recently arrived in Thailand and were diagnosed while in guarantine facilities and 1 individual who entered Thailand through the land border.
- The 271 new cases reported today also included the following:
 - 78 cases are linked to occupational risk, visiting crowded places or had contact with confirmed cases, including Bangkok (14), Samut Prakan (5), Chonburi (5), Rayong (8), Nakhon Ratchasima (1), Nonthaburi (2), Pathum Thani (1), Samut Sakhon (36), Sing Buri (1), and Ang Thong (5).
- The remaining 181 cases reported today are migrant workers (171) and in the Thai population (10) who were identified through contact tracing and active case finding in Samut Sakhon (172), Chacheongsao (1), Chonburi (5), and Rayong (3). This brings the cumulative total in this group to 3,187.
- Locally transmitted COVID-19 cases have now been reported in 60 provinces. No additional province reported new cases today. Of the 60 provinces with active cases, 10 provinces have reported more than 50 cumulative cases, 12 provinces have reported between 11 to 50 cumulative cases, and 38 provinces have reported between 1 to 10 cumulative cases.
- The 10 provinces that reported more than 50 cumulative cases are Samut Sakhon (3,599), Chonburi (630), Rayong (564), Bangkok (526), Samut Prakan (304), Chanthaburi (212), Nonthaburi (149), Nakhon Pathom (77), Ang Thong (89), and Pathum Thani (68).
- During the new wave (between 15th December 2020 and 14th January 2021), 7,025 confirmed cases have been reported, of which 3,400 were classified as local transmissions, 3,187 were detected through active case finding and 438 from individuals who entered Thailand from other countries. At present, 3,720 have recovered, 3,296 are receiving treatment and 9 have died.



UPDATE FROM CCSA

- Earlier this week, the National Communicable Disease Committee approved a preliminary COVID-19 vaccination plan.
 - The roll out of the initial batch of 200,000 Sinovac vaccines in February will cover the following high-risk groups (regardless of their legal status and nationality) in the 5 highly-controlled and provinces:
 - Medical and public health personnel
 - Patients with underlying conditions
 - Citizens aged 60 years and above
 - Disease control staff
 - The national vaccination plan will be reviewed as the situation progresses.
 - Negotiations with various manufacturers, led by the Ministry of Public Health, are ongoing. Thailand puts safety and efficacy as key considerations for the selection of COVID-19 vaccines to be used in the country.
 - At present, Sinovac and AstraZeneca vaccines are in the process of registering with Thailand's Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Evidence from clinical trials will be thoroughly examined before approval.
- Infection in the workplace
 - A number of new cases have been reported linked to workplaces: employers are therefore, encouraged to implement a work-from-home policy as well as to implement rigorous safety measures at their workplaces.

EXPLAINER: Laboratory testing for COVID-19 (3) PCR testing

- PCR tests are used to detect the genetic material of a virus or bacteria: in the case of COVID-19 this genetic material is known as RNA. PCR tests can be done on any type of clinical specimen that contains virus, but for COVID-19 the usual method is to take a swab from the back of the nasal cavity (in medical terms this is the nasopharynx – so it's a nasopharyngeal swab). Unfortunately, if the test is done properly it can be quite uncomfortable.
- PCR tests are the most accurate kind currently available (the 'gold standard') and these are the tests used in Thailand to confirm infection in a suspected case. Specialist lab equipment is needed, but at present there are 250 labs in Thailand accredited to do PCR testing for COVID-19, including at least one in every province. It can take time for results to become available: you will be advised what to do while waiting.
- It can also take a few days after infection for PCR tests to show a positive result. If you are tested on the day you were exposed, your result will almost certainly come back negative because there are not yet enough viral particles in your nose to detect.

RT-PCR tests The most accurate tests we have so far Cost more Require sophisticated lab equipment not available everywhere Require skilled and trained staff Take more time to get results Involve swabbing your nose/throat WHO-recommended tests for laboratory diagnosis of COVID-19

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, quidelines 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:

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