



18 February 2021


WHO Thailand Situation Report




25,111
(+150)
Confirmed




82
(+0)
Deaths



1,083
Hospitalized




23,946
(+249)
Recovered



THAILAND
SITUATION
UPDATE
No. 154

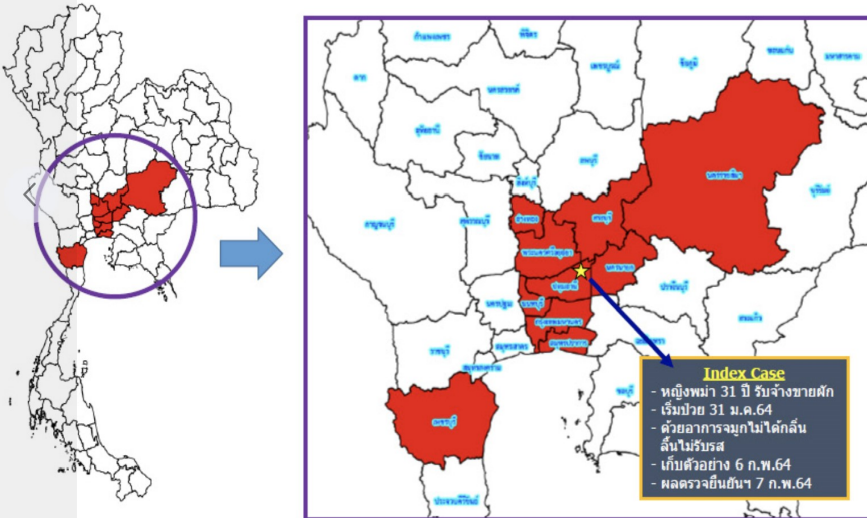
SPOTLIGHT

- 150 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 25,111.
No new deaths were reported today.
- Of the cases reported in Thailand, 95.4% (23,946) have recovered, 0.3% (82) have died, and 4.3% (1,083) are receiving treatment or are in isolation (870 are in conventional hospitals and 213 in field hospitals).
- The laboratory-confirmed cases reported today include
 - 8 individuals who arrived recently in Thailand and were diagnosed in quarantine facilities.
 - 38 cases detected through the routine surveillance system linked to occupational risk, visiting crowded places or contact with confirmed cases in Samut Sakhon (19 Thais, 7 Burmese), Bangkok (5 Thais), Pathum Thani (3 Burmese), Maha Sarakham (1 Thai), Ayutthaya (1 Burmese), Tak (1 Thai), and Nakhon Pathom (1 Thai).
 - 104 cases identified through active case finding in Pathum Thani (17 Thais, 24 Burmese, 1 Laotian) and Samut Sakhon (2 Thais, 60 Burmese).
- Of 142 cases acquired in Thailand, 62% were detected in Samut Sakhon, 4% in Bangkok and 35% in other provinces.
- During the new wave (between 15 December 2020 and 18 February 2021), 20,874 confirmed cases have been reported, of which 5,727 were detected through the routine surveillance system, 14,256 through active case finding and 891 are in individuals who entered Thailand, detected through screening in quarantine. At present, 19,769 have recovered, 1,083 are receiving treatment, and 22 have died.
- Confirmed cases in the new wave in Thailand have been reported in 63 provinces.



Clusters linked to Pornpat Market, Pathum Thani Province
Cumulative total between 9-16 February: 359

COVID-19 cases in 10 provinces



Index Case

- หญิงพม่า 31 ปี รับจ้างขายผัก
- เริ่มป่วย 31 ม.ค.64
- ด้วยอาการง่วงไม่ได้อิ่ม
- สิ้นใจวันพุธ
- เก็บตัวอย่าง 6 ก.พ.64
- ผลตรวจยืนยันฯ 7 ก.พ.64

จังหวัดที่ Isolated	จำนวน (ราย)
Pathum Thani	332
Nakhon Nayok	7
Bangkok	4
Phetchaburi	4
Samut Prakarn	3
Saraburi	3
Ayutthaya	2
Ang Thong	2
Nakhon Ratchasima	1
Nonthaburi	1

ที่มา : ข้อมูลผู้ป่วยจากโปรแกรม ICN และ DDC COVID-19 กรมควบคุมโรค ณ วันที่ 16 กุมภาพันธ์ 2564

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UPDATE FROM THE CCSA

The situation in Pathum Thani

- Active case finding in Pathum Thani has been carried out in three markets (Pornpat, Suchat and Rangsit) and surrounding communities.
- Cases linked to the Pathum Thani cluster have been reported in 9 other provinces including Nakhon Nayok (7), Bangkok (4), Phetchaburi (4), Samut Prakan (3), Saraburi (3), Ayutthaya (2), Ang Thong (2), Nakhon Ratchasima (1), and Nonthaburi (1).

Vaccines

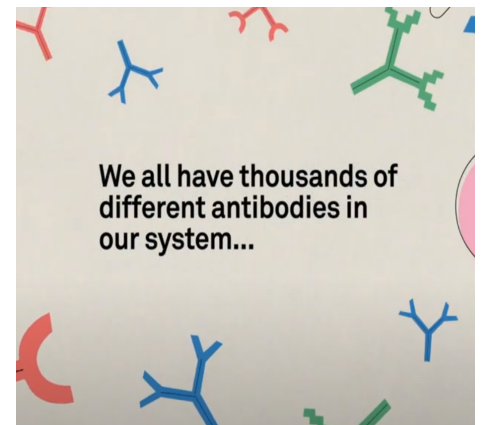
- The CCSA Ad Hoc Committee plans to submit a COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan to the CCSA for approval soon.
- Thailand's COVID-19 immunization programme aims to provide access to safe and effective vaccines for all individuals in the country. **'All individuals' in this regard will cover non-Thais who are living in Thailand, including migrant workers.**

EXPLAINER: SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus mutations and their implications for public health and vaccine effectiveness

Together with public health and social measures, vaccination is our primary tool to bring the emergency phase of the COVID-19 pandemic to a close. In a stunning success story, modern vaccine technology enabled the development of safe and effective vaccines in about one year. Now, as nations around the world rush to vaccinate their populations, the discovery of virus variants that reduce the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines is an important concern.

Scientists pay most attention to mutations in the gene that encodes the coronavirus spike protein, which plays a key role in viral entry into cells. Targeted by vaccines, this protein influences immunity and vaccine efficacy. It is (also) important to understand that vaccines are measured by their ability to prevent different disease "endpoints" ranging from mild illness, to severe illness that requires hospitalization, to death. A vaccine's performance will also vary according to the age and health status of the vaccines. In general, vaccines are less effective in elderly people.

Recently published data from vaccine trials that took place in South Africa after the emergence of the variant showed significant declines in efficacy. As a result, South Africa announced plans to stop its rollout of the AstraZeneca vaccine. An interim analysis of trial results there found that the vaccine didn't protect recipients against mild-to-moderate illness. The Novavax vaccine had 89% efficacy in trials in the UK, but only 60% in South Africa where more than 9 of 10 COVID-19 cases were caused by the variant. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine had 72% efficacy in the US, but 57% in South Africa.



<https://youtu.be/qz9QPVRw034>
Watch this short video to understand the importance of vaccines in fighting disease.

Can COVID-19 vaccines be altered to protect against the variants?

Yes, and work on this is already underway. While still challenging, modifying a vaccine to adapt to new virus variants is easier and faster than making the original vaccine. For example, AstraZeneca is planning to release an updated COVID-19 vaccine in the fall, which could be used as a booster dose. A major challenge will be keeping up with the pace of mutations as variants have emerged quickly and it is likely there will be others. Still, the overall vaccination picture remains quite positive. More companies will soon have COVID-19 vaccines approved, and millions more people around the world are being vaccinated each day.

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

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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