

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Data as reported by the CCSA mid-day press briefing

8 April 2021

WHO Thailand Situation Report

30,310
(+405)
Confirmed

95
(+0)
Deaths

2,114
Hospitalized

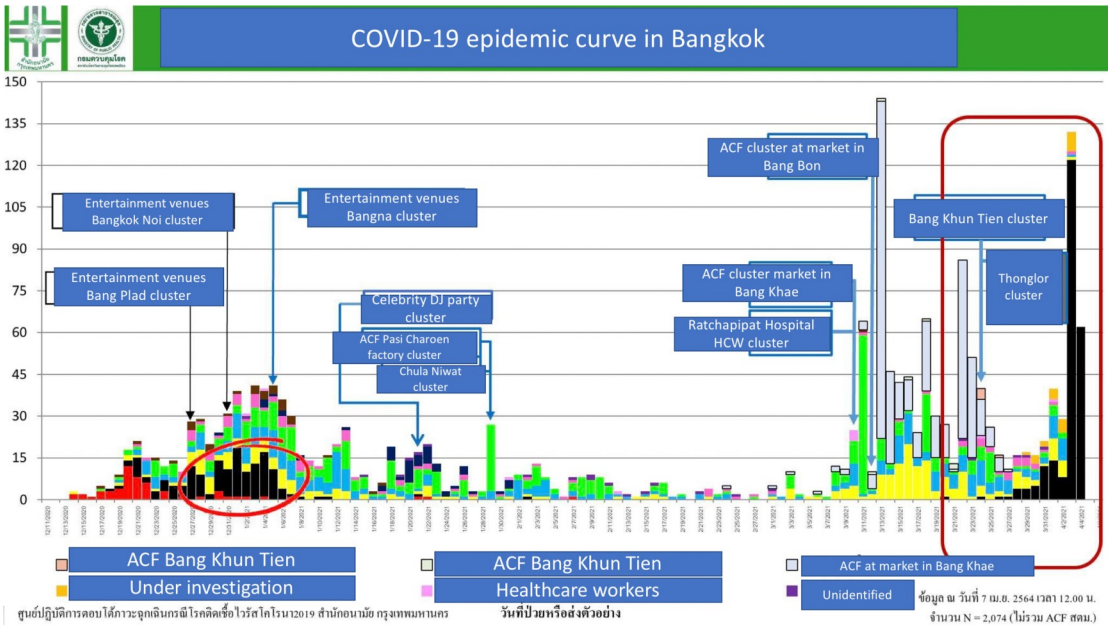
28,101
(+32)
Recovered



THAILAND
SITUATION
UPDATE
No. 169

SPOTLIGHT

- 405 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 30,310. **No new deaths were reported today.**
- Of the cases reported in Thailand, 92.7% (28,101) have recovered, 0.3% (95) have died, and 7% (2,114) are receiving treatment or are in isolation (1,519 are in conventional hospitals and 595 in field hospitals).
- The 405 laboratory-confirmed cases reported today include
 - 14 individuals who arrived recently in Thailand and were diagnosed in quarantine facilities.
 - 197 cases detected through the routine surveillance system linked to occupational risk, visiting crowded places or contact with confirmed cases in Bangkok (46 Thais, 1 Japanese, 1 Chinese), Chiang Mai (3 Thais, 1 Taiwanese, 1 Singaporean), Lampang (1 Thai), Chiang Rai (1 Thai), Phisanulok (4 Thais), Ayutthaya (2 Thais), Saraburi (1 Thai), Nonthaburi (18 Thais), Pathum Thani (8 Thais), Nakhon Pathom (6 Thais), Supanburi (2 Thais), Samut Sakhon (9 Thais), Chachoengsao (1 Thai), Chonburi (11 Thais, 1 Cambodian, 2 Japanese), Samut Prakan (23 Thais), Sa Kaew (14 Thais), Rayong (1 Thai), Prachuab Khirikhan (13 Thais, 1 British), Khon Kaen (3 Thais), Nong Bua Lampu (1 Thai), Udon Thani (7 Thais), Buriram (2 Thais), Chaiyaphum (2 Thais), Yasothorn (1 Thai), Phuket (3 Thais), Nakhon Si Thammarat (1 Thai), Chumpon (3 Thais), and Songkhla (2 Thais).
 - 194 cases identified through active case finding in Bangkok (45 Thais, 2 Myanmar nationals), Samut Sakhon (1 Thai), and 146 people currently being investigated at prisons in Narathiwat province.
- Of the 391 cases acquired in Thailand, 9 were detected in Samut Sakhon, 95 in Bangkok and 287 in other provinces.
- During the new wave (between 15 December 2020 and 7 April 2021), 26,073 confirmed cases have been reported, of which 7,980 were detected through the routine surveillance system, 16,690 through active case finding, and 1,403 are individuals who entered Thailand from other countries. At present, 23,924 have recovered, 2,114 are receiving treatment, and 35 have died.
- During the new wave, new cases have been reported in 68 provinces in Thailand.
- The 17 provinces reporting more than 50 cumulative cases in the new wave are Ratchaburi (51), Supanburi (64), Ayutthaya (69), Samut Songkhram (74), Petchaburi (90), Ang Thong (125), Nakhon Pathom (189), Tak (219), Chantaburi (222), Nonthaburi (238), Narathiwat (280), Samut Prakan (518), Rayong (586), Chonburi (716), Pathum Thani (780), Bangkok (2,782), and Samut Sakhon (17,194).



UPDATE FROM THE CCSA

- **Control measures**
The closure of entertainment venues at 41 provinces for a period of 14 days is being considered. A final decision will be reached and announced by the Prime minister on Friday, 9 April.
- **Work from home (WFH)**
The government sector and private companies are encouraged to consider allowing staff members to work from home to minimize any risk of infection.
- **Field hospitals**
Alternative plans are being considered as private and public hospitals become busier. Three options being proposed
1. Add more beds 2. Introduction of ASQ (alternative state quarantine) whereby hospital staff attend to individuals at their ASQ hotel 3. Setting up of field hospitals.
- **The Thonglor/Ekamai cluster**
◊ A total of 504 cases were linked to entertainment venues in the Thonglor/Ekamai area. The B.1.1.7 variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is known to be highly transmissible, was reported in this cluster.
◊ Most of the cases occurred in the working age group (aged between 20-30) and were found in 20 provinces (but mostly concentrated in Bangkok).
- **Advice to the public**
Don't be complacent. Always wear a mask and take all precautionary measures to prevent the spread of or contraction of the virus.
Cooperation from all sectors is vital in safeguarding our health.

When you are outdoors and can't maintain physical distance, wear a mask.



When you are indoors and not sure how the room is ventilated, wear a mask regardless of the distance from others.



EXPLAINER: The impact of the UK identified Variant of concern (B.1.1.7)

Yesterday the MoPH announced that a number of the cases in the Thonglor – Ekamai cluster were identified as infection with the B.1.1.7 SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern (VoC), first detected in the United Kingdom September 2020. What is the B.1.1.7 VoC? As described in previous sitreps, it is the nature of viruses to mutate. Most mutations are inconsequential to humans, but every once in a while, mutations occur that confer advantages to the virus. The main reason for concern is that this variant is far more infectious than previous circulating strains. Evidence suggests that it is 36-70% or more infectious. By January 2021 this was the dominant circulating strain in the United Kingdom, having overtaken previous SARS-CoV-2 strains. It has since been found in more than 130 countries. Evidence is showing that the recent upsurge in cases in some countries is as a result of this strain.

The second reason that this variant is of concern is that emerging evidence indicates this strain can result in more severe COVID-19 disease. While initially there was no evidence of more severe disease, more recent reports indicate that this variant can lead to an increasing in hospitalization and death.

Existing public health and social preventative measures work as well for this variant as they do for previous strains. However, as this is a more easily transmissible variant, it is essential that correctly wearing of masks, cough etiquette, hand-washing and physical distancing are rigorously and continually applied. Similarly, it is more important than ever to avoid crowded environments, particularly bars or clubs, where there is limited ventilation and mask-wearing is reduced.

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](#)

World Health Organization Country Office for Thailand
4th Fl., Permanent Secretary Bldg.3 Ministry of Public Health,
Nonthaburi Thailand, 11000

Media queries sethawebmaster@who.int and kanpirom@who.int



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