


Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)


Data as reported by the CCSA mid-day press briefing


17 May 2021

WHO Thailand Situation Report


111,082
(+9,635)
Confirmed


614
(+25)
Deaths


43,268
Hospitalized


67,200
(+1,397)
Recovered

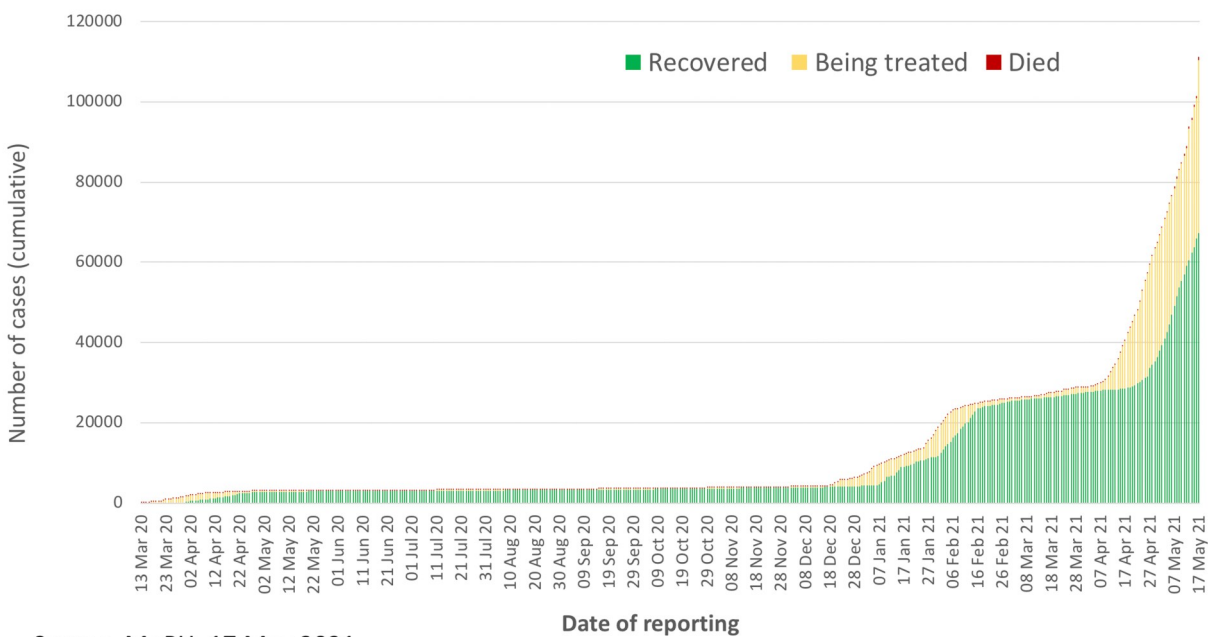


**THAILAND
SITUATION
UPDATE**
No. 181

SPOTLIGHT

- Today, 9,635 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand. 25 new deaths were reported today. In addition, 1,226 patients are considered to have serious illness, of which 400 are currently receiving ventilatory support.
- Of the cases reported in Thailand to date, 60.5% (67,200) have recovered, 0.5% (614) have died, and 39% (43,268) are receiving treatment or are in isolation: (22,662 are in conventional hospitals and 20,606 in field hospitals).
- The 9,635 laboratory-confirmed cases reported today include
 - ◇ 6,853 cases at prison facilities.
 - ◇ 1,820 cases detected through the routine surveillance system: (testing of people presenting at a healthcare facility for a variety of reasons, including presence of COVID-19 symptoms, contact with a case, concern about a possible exposure).
 - ◇ 953 cases identified through active case finding: (testing of people in the community at the initiative of public health authorities).
 - ◇ 9 cases detected in quarantine after arriving in Thailand from another country.
- Between 1 April 2021 and 17 May 2021, 82,219 confirmed cases have been reported, of which 58,035 were detected through the routine surveillance system, 13,061 through active case finding, 375 are individuals who entered Thailand from other countries, and 10,748 are inmates and officials at prison facilities. 520 cases have died.
- The 10 Provinces reporting the greatest number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases today are Bangkok (1,843), Samut Prakan (155) Pathum Thani (146), Nonthaburi (129), Samut Sakhon (53), Chonburi (45), Songkhla (42), Nakhon Pathom (36), Ayutthaya (31), and Surat Thani (27).

COVID-19 cases in Thailand, by date of reporting



Source: MoPH, 17 May 2021

UPDATE FROM THE CCSA

• The current situation

- ◇ The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) reported 28 active “clusters” in 19 districts including Din Daeng, Wattana, Klongtoei, Laksi, Ladprao, Ratchathewi, Phra Nakorn, Pomprab, Suan Luang, Pathumwan, Sathorn, Sampantawong, Chatuchak, Bang Rak, Prawet, Wang Thonglang, Ramkhamhaeng, Bangkok Noi, and Huaykwang.
- ◇ The Italian-Thai construction site/camp in Laksi district had the highest detection rate of COVID-19 at 62.3%. 11 sub-contractors have been linked to the site and six surrounding communities are now at risk.

• Control measures

Restaurants/eateries in the maximum-controlled and strictly-enforced zone i.e. Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Pathum Thani and Samut Prakan, will be able to re-open for dine-in customers but at only 25% capacity and no alcohol is allowed. Members of the public were urged to continue to strictly practise public health and social measures to reduce transmission of the virus, especially to vulnerable family members.

• Vaccination

- ◇ Thailand's Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted the Moderna vaccine emergency use authorisation, valid for one year from 13 May.
- ◇ To date, 2,264,308 doses of vaccine have been administered (1,482,702 have received a first dose and 781,606 have received both doses).

EXPLAINER:

How can we be sure a vaccine will protect us from getting sick?

Developing a vaccine against a virus is a complicated process. The first stage is usually to try and identify a natural or synthetic substance that will trigger the same immune reaction as the actual virus would. Next, researchers evaluate its safety and measure the immune response it generates – to try and work out what's the right dose. However, although injecting someone with a vaccine and looking at how much antibody is generated will provide important information, the only way to really know whether a vaccine will protect us, is by studying what happens when people who are vaccinated are then exposed to the virus itself.

The two main ways to measure the degree to which a vaccine will protect us from getting sick, are 1. by conducting a controlled clinical trial, and 2. by looking at what happens in 'real life', i.e. when some people in a community are vaccinated and some are not, and the virus is spreading.

We use different technical terms to describe these situations. The first term, 'vaccine efficacy' measures the amount of protection against a disease in a controlled vaccine trial. If a vaccine has 70% efficacy it means that a person vaccinated in a clinical trial is around two-thirds less likely to develop the disease than someone else in the trial who didn't get the vaccine. But when we estimate the amount of protection of a vaccine outside a clinical trial, we refer to 'vaccine effectiveness'. Compared with efficacy, the measurement of effectiveness accounts for all the complexities of the real world.

There is no single standard level of vaccine efficacy that can be applied to all vaccines. For COVID-19, a vaccine efficacy 'threshold' of 50% was set, because the virus causes significant levels of illness and deaths – so that even if a vaccine has only 50% efficacy, it's still worth using. Fortunately, the ever-increasing data on COVID-19 vaccines suggests that they generally have high efficacy and are very safe. When reviewing data on efficacy and effectiveness, it's also important to understand whether the thing that's being measured is the degree of protection against 'any' level of disease, or severe disease and death. Although it would be great if a vaccine gave complete protection against any form of disease, what's most important is protection against severe disease, hospitalization and deaths. Data so far shows that COVID-19 vaccines are much better at protecting against severe outcomes than against mild disease.



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

The Thailand COVID19 situation report is available in Thai and English, please [visit](#)
For regular updates on WHO's response in Thailand, please [visit](#)

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