# Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Data as reported by the CCSA mid-day press briefing



24 May 2021

### **WHO Thailand Situation Report**









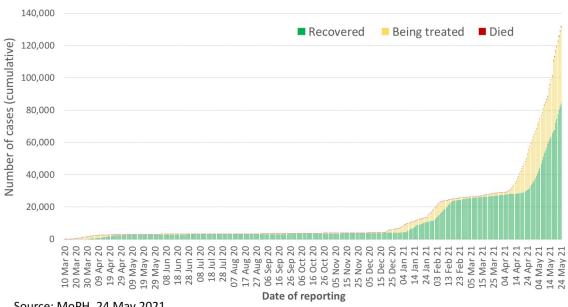


**THAILAND** SITUATION **UPDATE** No. 183

### SPOTLIGHT

- Today, 2,713 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand. 30 new deaths were reported today. In addition, 1,169 patients are considered to have serious illness, of which 406 are currently receiving ventilatory support.
- Of the cases reported in Thailand to date, 65.1% (86,100) have recovered, 0.6% (806) have died, and 34.3% (45,307) are receiving treatment or are in isolation: (18,753 are in conventional hospitals and 26,554 in field hospitals).
  - The 2,713 laboratory-confirmed cases reported today include:
  - ♦ 206 cases in prison facilities.
  - \$\delta\$ 1,147 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 possible exposure).
  - \$\displaysquare 1,311 cases identified through active case finding: (testing of people in the community at the initiative of public health authorities).
  - 49 cases detected in quarantine after arriving in Thailand from another country (this relatively large increase in cases in quarantine includes 41 returnee's from Cambodia)
- The 10 Provinces reporting the greatest number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases today are Bangkok (951), Phetchaburi (669), Samut Prakan (180), Chonburi (106), Nonthaburi (92), Samut Sakhon (43), Pathum Thani (38), Songkhla (36), Nakhon Pathom (28), and Ayutthaya (18).
- 27 provinces reported no new cases today.

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



Source: MoPH, 24 May 2021

### UPDATE FROM THE CCSA

#### The current situation

- It's important to note that evidence-based data is being used in the analysis of situations in specific districts of Bangkok. Important clusters still pose a threat in Bangkok especially at many construction sites in the capital. Up to 50 districts have now set up special operational committees to examine outbreaks in districts under their control.
- ♦ Bangkok remains the hotspot for new COVID-19 infections. Existing clusters are penitentiaries, factories and surrounding settlements, all of which have been put under the "bubble and seal" and "area quarantine" measures. Active case finding and contact tracing have been intensified nationwide to stem the spread of the outbreak.

#### **Examinations for International Schools**

A request made by the Education Ministry on behalf of international schools in Thailand for GED, SAT, A levels and other types of exams to be held for international students in Thailand has been approved. Schools can go ahead with the exams for this calendar year and are urged to practise strict public health and social measures for their own safety.

#### **COVID-19 Variants**

The Department of Disease Control says the COVID-19 strain first detected in India (B.1.617.1) has been found amongst workers at a construction camp in Laksi district, Bangkok. The strain is not resistant to the AstraZeneca vaccine which is Thailand's main vaccine. Of the 15 infected, 7 were male and 8 female with a media age of 46). According to the UK's Department of Health, the variant spreads in same pattern as the strain first detected in the UK (B.1.1.7), but there is no evidence that it leads to a higher mortality rate.

#### The Sinovac vaccine

Reference was made to WHO with regards to outstanding questions about the status of Sinovac in Thailand. Please be informed that WHO's Emergency Use Listing (EUL) assesses the quality, safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines. For more on the status of different COVID-19 vaccines under consideration for, or which have received, full EUL approval by WHO see here.

## **EXPLAINER: COVID-19 vaccination in** Thailand: Monitoring adverse events following immunization (AEFI)

The Thai Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has in place systems to look for and follow-up on potential AEFI following administration of COVID-19 vaccines. These start with the ongoing process of quality assurance in the manufacture of the domestically manufactured AstraZeneca vaccine as well as those that are imported. These quality assurance processes are aimed at ensuring that the supply, storage and shipment of vaccines can provide confidence in the safe delivery of the vaccine to the point of vaccination.

Each person to be vaccinated in Thailand will go through a multi-step process for assessing for potential AEFI events at the time of vaccination. This starts with health education: providing basic knowledge of the vaccine and what adverse events may occur; this is followed by an examination of one's medical history and screening to ensure each person is able to safely be vaccinated at this time; and then following vaccination, a mandatory 30-minute post inoculation observation period so that any immediate and serious events that may occur, such as severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) are identified and can be treated immediately. Finally there is the ongoing post-inoculation reporting of events. This AEFI reporting will be a key feature of the Mor Prom application that allows the reporting of any events that a person may experience following vaccination. By allowing for any events to be reported, the MoPH recognizes the need, as a new vaccine, to identify the scope of reactions people may experience and to assess, separate and follow-up, the causally from the coincidentally related.

Any medical product can have unexpected side effects, even medicines like paracetamol and ibuprofen. The risk of suffering blood clots from COVID-19 is much higher than it is from receiving the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. #VaccinesWork

### 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.



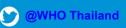
The Thailand COVID19 situation report is available in Thai and English, please visit For regular updates on WHO's response in Thailand, please visit

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