

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)



World Health
Organization
Thailand

30 September 2021
WHO Thailand Weekly
Situation Update
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Based on data as reported by the CCSA

DAILY AVERAGE (24-30 September)



11,266 new cases



608,204 vaccinations



12,902 people recovered



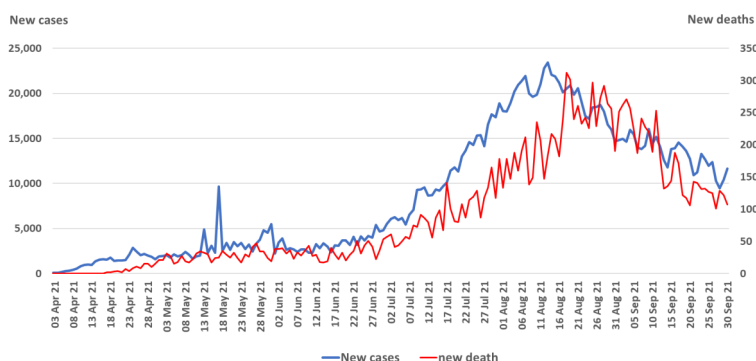
120 deaths

1,603,475 total confirmed cases

16,727 total deaths

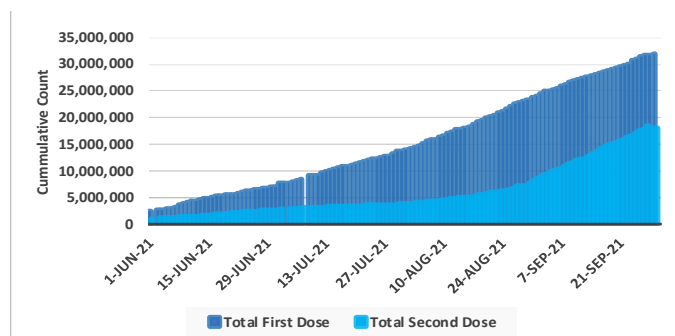
WEEKLY TRENDS

- The number of new community acquired COVID-19 cases continues the downward trend seen for the last six-weeks, although case counts remain high.
- The number of deaths continues a four-week decreasing trend with an average of 120 deaths per day. However the rate of decrease (10%) has slowed down and halved compared to the previous week (21%, 24%, 10%)
- The numbers of severe and ventilated cases remain high, but continue to show a downward trend (severe cases decreasing by 9% and ventilated cases by 4%).



VACCINATIONS

- 32 million people have now received a first vaccination dose, representing 63.3% of the Government target; a 6.4% increase from the previous week.
- More than 18 million people have received a second dose, representing 35.9% of the Government target; an 8.5% increase from the previous week.
- More than 1 million third doses have also been administered
- Vaccination levels remain low in some key risk groups



ANALYSIS

- The total number of 'active' COVID-19 cases who require direct medical care or medical supervision (representing the overall burden on the healthcare system) continues to decrease. The number of cases reported today that are classified as severe (3175) and the number of these cases who are being supported through mechanical ventilation (717) are also the lowest for more than two months.
- The relative proportion of all cases that are being reported in Bangkok remains high. In addition increases in case numbers are now being reported in Southern Provinces, with the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th highest Provincial case counts for today being reported from Narathiwat (617 cases), Songkhla (566 cases), Yala (561 cases and Nakhon Si Thammarat (458 cases). The reason for these increases are not currently very clear, with transmission likely occurring in both community and occupational settings.

It is now one month since the relaxation of many key Public Health and Social Measures. Although case numbers are the lowest for several months, there is still significant transmission occurring in communities and although good progress is being made in vaccination, levels of immunity are still not high enough to have a significant impact on overall transmission'.

We must use all the tools we have
to protect ourselves and others

1



GET VACCINATED
AS SOON AS
IT'S YOUR TURN

2



KEEP A SAFE
DISTANCE AND
AVOID CROWDS

3



WEAR A MASK

4



COUGH OR SNEEZE
INTO YOUR
ELBOW OR A TISSUE

5



OPEN YOUR
WINDOWS AND
KEEP SPACES
WELL VENTILATED

6



CLEAN YOUR
HANDS
REGULARLY



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EXPLAINER: CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic it has become clear that many children and adolescents do not develop any symptoms when infected with SARS-CoV-2, and that for younger people who do develop symptoms, there is a much lower risk of developing severe illness.

However, because it was believed that children could have a significant role in the transmission of infection to others and therefore contribute to the spread of infection in communities, public health measures applied in many countries have included withdrawing children from school or closing schools altogether.

Unfortunately though, keeping children from school clearly has undesirable consequences, including poor learning as well as impacting on the broader social and developmental benefits afforded by in-person learning. In some settings, school-aged children have also showed increases in anxiety, depression, and self-harm. The COVID-19 pandemic has also sometimes led to reduced physical activity, poor eating habits, and disrupted sleep patterns. These problems would be only become worse the longer schools remain closed.

But the good news is that there's increasing evidence that schools can reopen safely. Although it will not be possible to reduce risk to zero, the risks are manageable with robust mitigation strategies including vaccination.

The World Health Organization's guidance on operating schools during the pandemic includes several measures to reduce COVID-19 exposure and transmission. These include personal hygiene practices, proper mask use, physical distancing, adequate ventilation, and regular cleaning and disinfection of surfaces.

Can we reopen schools when not all children are vaccinated?

Yes, schools can be reopened safely, as long as basic safety measures are closely followed. That's because COVID-19 poses a low risk in children and we have found that schools are a low-risk setting. On the other hand, school closure has had an overwhelmingly negative impact on children's mental health.

Clear and consistent communication with parents and children to ensure compliance in the classroom and during after-school activities is equally important.

As long as the adults working in the school environment and the community nearby are vaccinated, then by following the other public health measures, schools should be able to reopen safely.

Recommended measures include:

- Offering teachers and school staff the COVID-19 vaccine as part of the target population groups in national vaccination plans while ensuring vaccination of vulnerable populations;
- Vaccinating children aged 12 years and above with underlying medical conditions;
- Improving the school environment through better classroom ventilation, smaller class sizes where possible, physical distancing and regular testing of children and staff



Click the image to watch Science in Five from WHO on COVID-19: Keeping schools safe.

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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