

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)



World Health
Organization
Thailand

11 November 2021
WHO Thailand Weekly
Situation Update
No. 209

Based on data as reported by the CCSA

DAILY AVERAGE (5 - 11 November 2021)



7,141 new cases



7,735 people recovered



671,580 vaccinations



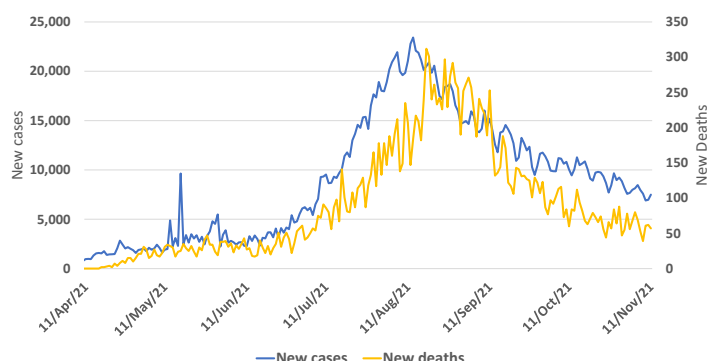
60 deaths

1,996,969 total confirmed cases

19,883 total deaths

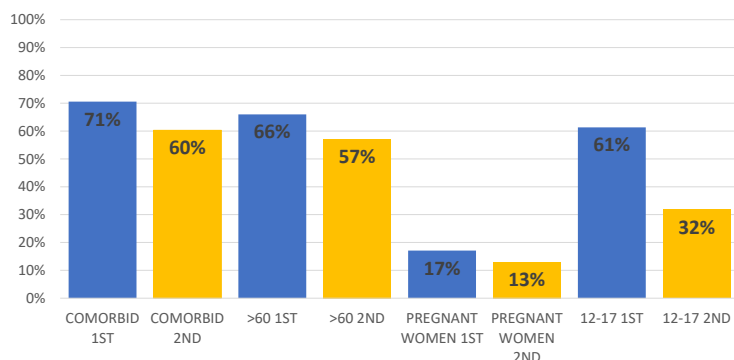
WEEKLY TRENDS

- The average number of new community acquired cases reported per week continues to decrease at a steady rate. Three of the last seven days have seen daily numbers of laboratory-confirmed cases below 7,000.
- The average number of deaths in the last week decreased by 8% compared to the week before, with an average of 60 deaths per day for the last seven days, compared to 65 deaths per day in the week prior.
- The number of severe cases decreased by 10% over the last week compared to a decrease of 9% in the week before. Similarly, ventilated cases decreased by 11% over the last week compared to 10% in the week prior. As with new community cases, the rate of decrease for severe and ventilated cases has stayed about the same for the last couple of weeks.



VACCINATIONS

- Over 44.5 million people have now received a first vaccination dose, representing 88% of the government target.
- 35 million people have received a second dose, representing 70% the Government target.
- Second-dose vaccination rates in individuals with co-morbid medical conditions and in people older than 60 is now around 60%. However, second dose vaccination is only 13% for pregnant women (increasing by only 1% over the previous week).
- 2nd dose vaccinations in adolescents aged between 12 and 17 now exceeds 1st dose vaccinations in pregnant women



SITUATION ANALYSIS

- The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases continues to decrease. The number of serious cases reported today (1,846) is the lowest since 29th June and also less than one third of the maximum number (5,628) reported on 16th August. Similarly, the number of ventilated cases reported yesterday (423) was the lowest since 22nd June and just 36% of the maximum number (1,172) reported on 15th August.
- Although numbers of reported cases are also decreasing in Southern Thailand, today there were still five Southern Provinces in the top ten most affected, including Songkhla (2nd after Bangkok with 524 cases), Nakhon Si Thammarat, (4th with 375 cases, Pattani (5th with 368 cases, Yala, (7th with 275 cases) and Surat Thani, (9th with 233 cases).
- Despite the decreasing trends, COVID-19 infections remain widespread across Thailand. The low vaccination rates in pregnant women continues to be a significant cause for concern.
- 49% of the population of Thailand is now fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Although vaccination significantly reduces the likelihood of developing severe illness, it provides incomplete protection against mild or asymptomatic infection. Individuals who develop infection after vaccination can infect others who are more vulnerable, so we should all continue to apply the basic protective measures that we know can break chains of infection, including staying at home, maintaining a distance from others, wearing a mask, coughing into a folded elbow and washing hands regularly with either alcohol-based handrub or soap and water.

We Are
#InThisTogether

What is the last thing
you touched?



Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands
with an alcohol-based hand rub (for 20-30 sec).



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EXPLAINER:

- The world's first oral medication for the treatment of COVID-19
- Safe Return to school (2)

The world's first oral medication for the treatment of COVID-19

- The past weeks have seen reports about the world's first oral antiviral drugs that are showing promising results for the treatment of COVID-19. The first one called 'Molnupiravir' is produced by Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics. The second is called Paxlovid and is produced by Pfizer Inc.
- Molnupiravir was reported by Merck to significantly reduce the risk of hospitalization in some patients in a Phase 3 trial. The drug functions by preventing the coronavirus from further replicating.
- WHO has received data from Merck on this trial as well as from three other Phase 3 trials conducted in patients with mild COVID-19 illness. The greatest benefit was seen in patients with important risk factors for severe COVID-19 and when the therapy was applied early in the disease course. WHO is currently looking at this evidence to inform our treatment guidelines. Because this is a new drug, introducing it into COVID-19 clinical care algorithms should be done with caution, ensuring that rigorous pharmacovigilance mechanisms are in place.
- WHO is also aware of Pfizer's report that Paxlovid has also shown promising results in reducing the risk of hospitalization and death associated with COVID-19 infection. WHO looks forward to receiving related data from Pfizer so it can review the evidence on the safety and efficacy of this drug. Should this medicine prove to be safe and effective, it is important that it is made available and affordable in all countries.
- WHO's review process is a rapid and agile mechanism to evaluate all drugs with promise.

What does 'pharmacovigilance' mean?



Pharmacovigilance refers to the science and activities needed to detect, assess, understand, and prevent adverse effects or any other medicine/vaccine-related problem. It requires all medicines to undergo rigorous testing for safety and efficacy through clinical trials before they are authorized for use.

Safe return to school (2)

- WHO is aware of reports of some school closures following the detection of COVID-19 cases only a week after many students resumed 'in-person' learning. These events are not entirely unexpected given the widespread ongoing community transmission in Thailand. The detection of cases and clusters in schools shows 'early warning' surveillance measures that have been introduced are working. Reporting of cases in schools will trigger carefully drawn up response and containment plans, including contact tracing in local communities by Thailand's army of disease detectives aimed at breaking chains of transmission. In most cases, children will be able to get back to school quickly after a period of remote learning, allowing their educational needs to be met.
- Many children and adolescents do not develop any symptoms when infected with SARS-CoV-2. Younger people who do develop symptoms, have a much lower risk of progressing to severe illness. Keeping children from school, however, clearly leads to poor learning and impacts on the broader social and developmental benefits afforded by in-person learning.



Click the image to watch Dr Maria Van Kerkhove, WHO's COVID-19 Technical Lead, discuss safe return to schools in Science in Five

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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