

# Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)



World Health  
Organization  
Thailand

25 November 2021  
WHO Thailand Weekly  
Situation Update  
No. 211

## DAILY AVERAGE (19 - 25 November 2021)



5,798 new cases



7,509 people recovered



511,161 vaccinations



47 deaths

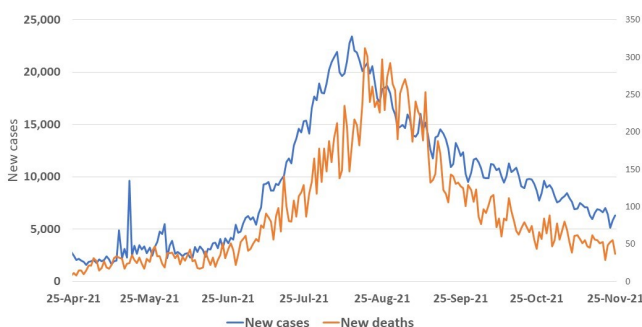
Based on data as reported by the CCSA

2,088,327 total confirmed cases

20,581 total deaths

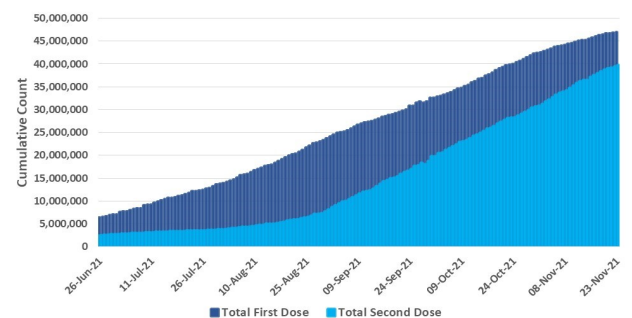
## WEEKLY TRENDS

- The total number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases reported in Thailand since January 2020 is now 2,088,327. The average number of cases reported per day over the last seven days decreased by a further 11% in the last week compared to the week prior (from 6520 to 5,798).
- The total number of deaths caused by COVID-19 infection since January 2020 is now 20,581. The average number of COVID-19 deaths reported per day in the last seven days decreased by 11% (47) compared to the week before (53).
- The average number of severe COVID-19 cases reported per day over the last seven days was 1,586, which when compared to the week before (1,783) and the week before that (1,977) shows that these numbers continue to decrease steadily.
- Similarly, the average number of ventilated COVID-19 cases reported per day over the last week was 377, compared to 417 the week prior and 438 the week before that.



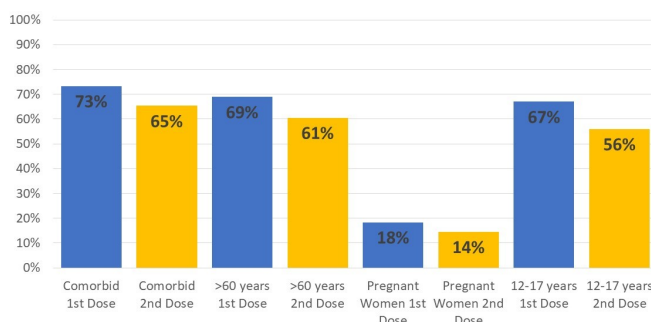
## SITUATION ANALYSIS

- The number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases reported every day continues to decrease. Today, the total number of active COVID-19 cases in Thailand (80,657); reflecting overall burden on the healthcare delivery system, is just 38% of the number of active cases seen at the peak (210,943) reported on 16th August.
- The number of severe COVID-19 cases reported today (1,508) is just 27 % of the highest number (5,626) ever reported, also on 16th August. The number of ventilated cases reported today (363) is 31% of the highest number (1172); reported on 15th August.
- However, COVID-19 is still widespread across Thailand, indicating ongoing community transmission. Daily reported case numbers continue to come down in Southern Thailand, although 'per capita' infection rates are still higher than most other parts of the country.
- Overall COVID-19 vaccination rates in Thailand are now at levels that can be expected to significantly reduce levels of severe illness



## VACCINATIONS

- Over 47 million people have now received a first vaccination dose, representing 93% of the government target.
- Nearly 40 million people have received a second dose, representing 78% the Government target.
- Nationally vaccinations have reached RTG targets of 80% 1st dose and 70% 2nd dose, but remain lower for vulnerable groups, (especially pregnant women) and adolescents.



and deaths. However, vaccination rates are still low in some provinces and in some important risk groups.



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**EXPLAINER:****The situation in Europe**

- International experience is showing that the COVID-19 pandemic still has a long way to run. For the past five weeks, several countries in Europe, including many with high vaccination coverage, have been reporting surges in COVID-19 cases.
- As a result, some countries, including Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Slovakia and Sweden are introducing or re-introducing public health measures aimed at reducing fourth and for some countries even fifth COVID-19 waves.
- Despite the introduction of these stronger measures, some of these countries are currently seeing their highest ever rates of new cases - since the start of the pandemic.
- Although the reasons for this upsurge vary somewhat from country to country, it is reported that in some, adherence to Public Health and Social Measures is sub-optimal, including wearing masks.
- As Thailand continues to re-open, it is critically important not to lose the gains that have been achieved. Caution must be exercised in the organization and conduct of seasonal events to prevent or mitigate the possibility of super-spreading events that are occasionally seen in association with mass gatherings.
- Vaccination coverage in Thailand is increasing with RTG targets of 80% first dose and 70% second dose having been reached at national level. However, vaccination coverage is still too low in some vulnerable groups, and there are significant differences in vaccination rates across all of Thailand's seventy-seven provinces.
- These gaps in vaccination are important, because they allow pockets of transmission to continue at a local level. The lesson from Europe should inform us that unless we remain vigilant, the confluence of localised low vaccination rates, poor adherence with protective measures and the travel and mass gatherings we will likely to see in the next 4-6 weeks can be a recipe for a rebound in COVID-19.
- It is therefore essential that as Thailand continues to re-open, we all do everything we can, all of the time, to protect ourselves and families. COVID-19 is not yet beaten in Thailand.

**Why is there a surge in COVID-19 cases in Europe?**

Because of the relaxation of public health and social measures and because the rate of vaccination is not high enough. Vaccines do not replace the need for other precautions. Vaccines reduce the risk of hospitalization, severe disease and death, but they do not fully prevent transmission.

**EXPLAINER:****Adverse events following vaccinations**

- Like any vaccine, COVID-19 vaccines can cause side effects. Most of these side-effects are mild and short-lived. They can include pain where you received the injection, tiredness, fever, chills, nausea or a headache.
- Severe events after vaccination are extremely rare. If you do experience side effects and they worsen or don't go away after a few days, you should contact your healthcare provider.
- For many years, Thailand has had a strong surveillance system in place to monitor what are referred to in technical terms as 'Adverse Events Following Immunisation' (AEFI).
- Surveillance for these adverse events is important for several reasons. Firstly, a 'population level' surveillance system like this *is* needed to detect very rare events related to vaccination that would not have been picked up through (smaller) clinical trials undertaken at the stage of regulatory approval.
- Secondly, when a vaccine is given to very large numbers of people, we can expect that some of these people will fall unwell for reasons that actually have nothing to do with the vaccine or the vaccination process. In other words, even if the individual had not been vaccinated, they still would have become unwell.
- However, when someone does become seriously unwell after receiving a vaccination, it's not surprising that the individual or their family will wonder if there is a connection.
- For this reason, AEFI surveillance is always linked to a structured process, where the detection of a severe adverse event triggers an investigation by a multi-disciplinary team of experts whose job it is to look into every possible cause. In the majority of cases, the investigation will establish the absence of a link to the vaccine, for example, there may be clear evidence of a pre-existing medical condition.



Click the image to watch Dr Katherine O'Brien, WHO Director of the Department of Immunization Vaccines and Biologicals, discuss how to assess the risks of side effects of COVID-19 vaccines

**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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