COVID-19 Situation, Thailand
05 January 2022

2,239,475 total confirmed cases       21,769 total deaths

Daily average reported from 30 Dec 2021 - 05 Jan 2022 (compared to week prior)

3,170 new cases (2,604)     17 deaths (25)
2,956 people recovered (3,250)     157,921 vaccinations (403,361)

Main messages

Community transmission of omicron increasing in some provinces
RTG encourages COVID-free setting and booster vaccinations
Get vaccinated, maintain universal precautions and stay informed
Contents COVID-19 Update

• Situation Analysis
• Global situation
• National situation
• Provincial situation
• RTG policy updates
• Explainers

All data from the RTG MoPH unless otherwise stated
Situation Analysis

• The total daily number of ‘active’ COVID-19 cases has stopped decreasing. The number reported on 01 January 2022 (32,929) was the lowest since 14 May 2021, but since then, every day has seen the number of new COVID cases exceeding the number of recovered cases, and the total number of active cases reported today is 34,887.

• The number of severe COVID-19 cases reported today (541) is only 9.6% of the highest number ever reported (5,626) on 16 August 2021, which reflects an ongoing decrease.

• The number of ventilated cases reported today (149) is only 12.7 % of the highest number ever reported, (1,172) on 15 August 2021, also reflecting an ongoing decrease.

• COVID-19 remains very widespread across Thailand – with community transmission in almost every province.

• The daily number of imported COVID cases has been rising steadily (169 reported today), reflecting an increased incidence of COVID VoC Omicron infections in travelers arriving from heavily affected countries.

• Community transmission of COVID VoC Omicron is now being reported in the majority of provinces in Thailand.

• COVID-19 vaccination rates continue to rise and are expected to significantly reduce levels of severe illness and deaths caused by all currently circulating COVID-19 strains, including VoC Omicron. However, vaccination rates are still low in some provinces and in some important risk groups.

• The low vaccination rate in pregnant women remains a significant cause for concern. Unvaccinated pregnant women should consult with a medical practitioner to receive the best possible advice. Until they are fully vaccinated, pregnant women and their families should adhere as strictly as possible to all preventive measures.
Global COVID-19 (total) cases, deaths and vaccinations to date: chart showing cases reported per week (03 January 2022)

- **281,808,270** confirmed cases
- **1,351,175** new cases in last 24 hours
  - New cases remains differed to the previous week
  - In the last week new deaths increased by 52%

- **5,411,759** deaths
- **7,605** new deaths in last 24 hours

- **8,693,832,171** vaccine doses administered
- **3,629,138,941** persons fully vaccinated

**Situation by WHO Region**

- **Americas**
  - 102,287,397 confirmed cases
- **Europe**
  - 99,133,183 confirmed cases
- **South-East Asia**
  - 44,933,587 confirmed cases
- **Eastern Mediterranean**
  - 17,122,988 confirmed cases
- **Western Pacific**
  - 11,165,866 confirmed cases
- **Africa**
  - 7,164,485 confirmed cases

The Africa region reported the largest weekly increase in new cases, 1.08%, and a 26.8% increase in new deaths.

The South-East Asia region reported a 0.05% increase in new cases and a 49.6% increase in new deaths.

https://covid19.who.int/
National Situation
Thailand COVID-19 cases, deaths and vaccinations to date: chart showing cases per day

New Community Cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases Total</th>
<th>7-day Average</th>
<th>Deaths Total</th>
<th>7-day Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,239,475</td>
<td>3,170</td>
<td>21,769</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vaccination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st dose</th>
<th>2nd dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51,312,938</td>
<td>46,180,074</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4th wave
Delta Voc

3rd wave
Alpha VoC

1st wave

2nd wave

Date of reporting

to 05 Jan 2022, source MoPH
Daily reported COVID-19 deaths in Thailand since April 2021

- Deaths have decreased by 32% in the last week.
Daily severe & ventilated Covid-19 cases (bed occupancy)

**Severe cases**
- Current count: 541
- 7 days average: 573
- 7 days decrease: 25%*

**Ventilated cases**
- Current count: 149
- 7 days average: 153
- 7 days decrease: 22%*

*Compared to the week prior to 04 Jan 2022

Source MoPH
Provincial situation
There is widespread ongoing transmission across Thailand.

Provinces reporting high cases per capita include those where relatively large numbers of VoC omicron are being reported.

- Some tourist destinations are reporting high rates of case numbers.
- Some provinces bordering Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar also have high reporting rates.

Provinces reporting relatively lower new cases per capita are in the north, central and north-eastern areas.
Map of new deaths per million population by province 29 December - 04 January

- The highest number of deaths per capita are still occurring in northern and southern provinces
- Deaths are also occurring in some central provinces
Policy Update
## Recommendations for COVID-19 booster dose

For those who have received the **same** type of vaccine as primary doses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st and 2nd dose</th>
<th>3rd dose</th>
<th>Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sinovac – Sinovac</td>
<td>Sinovac – Sinovac</td>
<td>At least 4 weeks after 2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinopharm – Sinopharm</td>
<td>Sinopharm – Sinopharm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AstraZeneca – AstraZeneca</td>
<td>AstraZeneca – AstraZeneca</td>
<td>At least 3 months after 2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer – Pfizer</td>
<td>Pfizer – Pfizer</td>
<td>At least 6 months after 2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderna – Moderna</td>
<td>Moderna – Moderna</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For those who have received **different** types of vaccine as primary doses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st and 2nd dose</th>
<th>3rd dose</th>
<th>Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sinovac/Sinopharm – AstraZeneca</td>
<td>Sinovac/Sinopharm – Pfizer/Moderna</td>
<td>At least 3 months after 2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinovac/Sinopharm – Pfizer</td>
<td>Sinovac/Sinopharm – Pfizer</td>
<td>At least 3 months after 2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AstraZeneca – Pfizer</td>
<td>AstraZeneca – Pfizer</td>
<td>At least 6 months after 2nd dose</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Department of Disease Control, 17 Dec 2021*
What do we know about omicron transmissibility?

There is now consistent evidence from an increasing number of countries that Omicron is spreading much faster than the Delta variant, with the number of reported cases in some settings doubling every 2-3 days. The factors underlying this rapid growth rate are still unclear but can probably be explained by a combination of increased transmissibility and an ability to evade immune responses.

What do we know about omicron severity?

Data on clinical severity of patients infected with Omicron is growing but is still limited. Early data from South Africa, the United Kingdom and Denmark suggest a reduced risk of hospitalization for Omicron compared to Delta. However, the risk of hospitalization might not be a very good indication of severity since it may reflect admission policies and practices. More data from different countries are needed to better understand the typical course of disease progression for omicron, as well as the need for oxygen, requirements for mechanical ventilation and the likelihood of dying.

What do we know about protection against omicron from vaccination or prior infection?

Preliminary data from studies have suggested that people who received a vaccination course or who have previously been infected with SARS-CoV-2 infection may produce relatively lower levels of antibodies against omicron. In addition, studies in England suggest that people who have previously been infected with SARS-CoV-2 are more likely to be reinfected with omicron that with other strains. An increasing trend of reinfection cases has also been observed in Denmark and Israel, suggesting some immune evasion by omicron.

Studies from the UK have also suggested that as with other strains, a reduction in vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic disease caused by omicron may be combated by a booster vaccination – suggesting a way to enhance protection for the most vulnerable.

What do we know about reliability of laboratory tests to diagnose omicron?

The diagnostic accuracy of routinely used PCR and antigen-based rapid diagnostic test (Ag-RDT) assays does not appear to be impacted by Omicron; although studies of the comparative sensitivity of Ag-RDTs are ongoing.

What do we know about treatment of omicron?

Treatment used to manage patients with severe or critical Omicron-associated COVID-19 infection - that target host responses - (such as corticosteroids, and IL 6 receptor blockers) are expected to remain effective.

What can we do to protect ourselves against omicron?

All variants of COVID-19 can cause severe disease and death, especially for the most vulnerable people; thus, prevention remains the most important way to protect ourselves and our families. The same protective measures that work against Delta will protect against Omicron. So even with many uncertainties surrounding Omicron, we can be very confident that the basic protective measures continue to work. Stay protected by getting yourself vaccinated, wearing correctly fitted and correctly wearing masks, keeping hands clean, coughing or sneezing into a bent elbow or tissue, and avoiding poorly ventilated or crowded spaces.
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

World Health Organization Country Office for Thailand
4th Fl., Permanent Secretary Bldg.3 Ministry of Public Health, Nonthaburi, Thailand, 11000. sethawebmaster@who.int

world.who.int/thailand

WHO Thailand

WHO Thailand

WHAT IS THE OMICRON VARIANT OF CONCERN?

Omicron is a variant of the virus that causes COVID-19.

It has been detected in multiple countries and is likely to be present in many others.

It is not yet known how easily Omicron spreads, how serious symptoms are or how it affects protection from vaccines.

Do it all to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

We are learning about Omicron more every day. Find out the latest at who.int

HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF AND OTHERS AGAINST OMICRON?

Getting vaccinated and practicing the protective behaviours are highly effective ways to protect yourself against serious illness and death from the currently dominant variant, Delta.

We expect the vaccines to provide some protection against all variants.

Do it all to stop COVID-19, including getting vaccinated as soon as it’s your turn.

We are learning about Omicron more every day. Find out the latest at who.int