COVID-19 Situation, Thailand
18 May 2022

4,388,204 total confirmed cases
29,595 total deaths

Daily average numbers reported from 4 May to 10 May 2022 (compared to the week prior)

6,487 new confirmed cases (8,005) 19% ↓
51* deaths (60) 15% ↓
*(Counting deaths changed to ‘deaths from COVID’ where previously ‘COVID deaths also included ‘deaths with COVID’)

8,817 people recovered (13,454) 34% ↓
111,245 vaccinations (108,956) 2% ↑

Main messages

| Reducing community transmission of COVID-19 across Thailand |
| RTG encourages COVID-free settings and booster vaccinations |
| Get vaccinated, maintain universal precautions and stay informed |

Back to Contents
Contents COVID-19 Update

• Situation analysis
• Global situation
• National situation
• Provincial situation
• COVID-19 testing
• Vaccination situation
• RTG policy updates
• Explainers

All data from the Royal Thai Government and Ministry of Public Health unless otherwise stated
New cases, severe cases, ventilated cases and deaths continue to show a weekly decrease. The average number of new laboratory-confirmed (PCR positive) COVID-19 cases reported per day (6,487) decreased by 19% in the past 7 days compared to the previous week (8,005). The average number of probable (ATK positive) cases reported per day over the last week also decreased by 19%

Bangkok continues to report the highest daily number of COVID cases (with a weekly average of 2,123) but reported a 7-day average decrease of 11% compared to the week before

The reduction in new cases has seen the average daily number of all currently 'active' COVID-19 cases (72,259) over the last seven days decrease by 23% compared to the previous week (93,955). Most cases continue to be monitored in hospitals, community isolation and home isolation. The average number of COVID cases occupying hospital beds per day over the past week (26,139) decreased by 12%

The weekly average number of daily deaths decreased by 15%. However, the daily average count of deaths remains high at 51. Although this is a continuing decrease, most of these deaths would have been prevented if vaccination rates were higher.

The average daily number of severe COVID-19 cases over the past seven days (1,302) represented a decrease of 18% over the previous week (1,580).

The average daily number of ventilated COVID-19 cases over the past seven days (642) has decreased by 15% compared to the number the week before (757)

Although nationally new cases are decreasing, the policy of not confirming all probable cases by PCR testing, as well as the widespread use of rapid antigen tests (including those available 'over the counter' that may not be reported), continues to make it difficult to accurately monitor actual case counts. From the data reported, the high transmissibility of the Omicron variant is clear, with approximately half of all cases in Thailand reported in the last 4-months, when the Omicron variant started to dominate circulation

Vaccination in Thailand continues to significantly reduce levels of severe illness and deaths caused by circulating COVID-19 strains. High vaccination rates also help to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. The COVID-19 situation in Thailand is improving, but there remains a long way to reduce the burden of ventilated cases and deaths from COVID-19 in Thailand. Vaccination rates remain low in some provinces and some important risk groups.
Global Situation
Global COVID-19 (total) cases, deaths and vaccinations to date:
chart showing cases reported per week (10 May 2022)

519,729,804 confirmed cases
346,558 new cases in last 24 hours

6,268,281 deaths
900 new deaths in last 24 hours

11,660,363,722 vaccine doses administered (14 May 2022)
5,169,961,821 persons vaccinated with at least one dose
4,668,348,676 persons fully vaccinated

Source: [https://covid19.who.int/](https://covid19.who.int/) - Data as of 17 May 2022, Vaccination data to 14 May 2022
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>4,382,977</td>
<td>6,487</td>
<td>29,550</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vaccination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st dose</th>
<th>2nd dose</th>
<th>3rd dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56,526,942*</td>
<td>51,977,479*</td>
<td>27,192,774*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3rd wave Alpha VoC
4th wave Delta Voc
5th wave Omicron VoC

Source MoPH to 17 May 2022
*Source CCSA to 16 May 2022

COVID-19 Update 18/05/2022
COVID-19 deaths in Thailand

- Deaths have decreased by 15% in the last week
- From 1 May, reporting of COVID deaths changed to be only deaths where COVID-19 is the cause of death. Previous to 1 May, COVID death reporting comprised deaths from COVID (COVID as the cause of death) and deaths from other causes in which COVID was present at the time of death
- In the last week of April, deaths from COVID comprised approximately half of the COVID reported deaths

Source MoPH to 17 May 2022
Severe and ventilated COVID-19 cases have decreased by 18% and 15% respectively in the past week.

Severe cases:
- Current count: 1,245
- 7 days average: 1,302
- 7 days decrease: 17.6%*
- Delta peak: 5,626
- Omicron peak: 2,123

Ventilated cases:
- Todays count: 607
- 7 days average: 642
- 7 days decrease: 15.2%*
- Delta peak: 1,172
- Omicron peak: 940

*Compared to the week prior

'No severe case or ventilated cases data currently available for 7 & 8 May'

Source MoPH to 17 May 2022
COVID-19 hospital bed occupancy (7-day average) and severe cases

Hospital bed occupancy
- 7 days hospital bed average: 26,139
- 7 days average decrease: 12%

All active cases (people in hospital, hospitels or in community or home isolation)
- 7 days all active cases average: 72,259
- 7 days decrease: 23%

Source MOPH: to 17 May 2022
COVID-19 proportion of new cases in Bangkok to all cases

The average daily number of confirmed cases in Bangkok over the past week has decreased by 11% compared to the week prior.

Cases in Bangkok still make up the greatest proportion of cases, with a 7-day average of 34%.
7-Day Average New COVID-19 cases per million population by province

• The average new cases per million population are decreasing across provinces.
• The variation between the lowest rate to the highest average rate of new cases was 0 (Lampang) to an average of 276 cases per million population (Bangkok). This is an 11% decrease from the previous week’s highest rate of an average of 310 cases per million population, also in Bangkok.
  o 51 provinces (66%) report an average of 100 or fewer cases per million population
  o With only Bangkok having more than an average of 200 cases per million population, 76 (96%) of 77 provinces report an average of 200 or fewer cases per million population compared to 74 provinces (76%) in the previous week
• Higher rates of cases continue to be seen mainly in the East and North-East of Thailand, around Bangkok, in Ang Thong and Uthai Thani.
7-Day Average New COVID-19 deaths per million population by province

- The average rate of deaths per million population over the past week ranged from 0 (17 provinces, up from 2 provinces in the previous week) to 2.2 average deaths per million province population (Nong Bua Lamphu). This is a decrease from the maximum average of 2.5 deaths per million population in the week before.
  - The number of provinces reporting an average of 1 or fewer deaths per million population (fewer than 1 death is due to averaging) decreased to 52 (67%) from 63 (82%) in the previous week.
  - Compared to recent weeks the provinces reporting the highest average rate of deaths has changed to be Nong Bua Lamphu and Loei in the north-east and Uthai Thani and Samut Songkhram in central region. The high rate possibly reflecting the smaller populations of these more rural and less densely populated areas.
COVID Testing
Nationally test positivity has been decreasing. The spike in positivity to 41% on 3rd May probably represents just some of the provinces with high positivity reporting and not all 77 provinces.
Vaccination
National COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage

People who have received:
1\textsuperscript{st} dose: 56,526,942
2\textsuperscript{nd} dose: 51,977,479
3\textsuperscript{rd} dose: 27,192,774

Source CCSA to 16 May 2022
Second dose coverage per million population by province

- The rate of 2-dose vaccination varies widely across all 77 provinces from 46% (Narathiwat) to Bangkok (100%).
- At the lower end of 2-dose vaccination coverage is increasing by less than half of one-percent per week.
- The pattern of distribution of 2-dose vaccination remains similar to previous weeks though with the number of provinces in the highest category of 70% or more population coverage increasing from 34 to 37 provinces (Amnat Charoen and Ubon Ratchatani in the north-east and Saraburi in the central region)
  - The same two provinces continue have less than 50% 2-dose coverage, both located in the far south (Narathiwat and Pattani)
  - The number of provinces with greater than 80% 2-dose vaccination remains at 9.
- Rural provinces continue to report lower vaccination coverage compared to tourist destination provinces in the south around Bangkok and Chiang Mai in the north.
Vaccination coverage: 1<sup>st</sup> dose, 2<sup>nd</sup> dose, 3<sup>rd</sup> dose and additional booster doses

MoPH to 15 May 2022
*CCSA to 16 May 2022

Blue = 1<sup>st</sup> dose  Yellow = 2<sup>nd</sup> dose  Green = 3<sup>rd</sup> dose includes also 4<sup>th</sup> and possibly 5<sup>th</sup> doses combined
COVID-19 burden on vulnerable population groups
Cumulative COVID-19 Cases reported to date by nationality (30 April 2022)

- Cambodia Laos & Myanmar comprise 5.0% of all reported cases
- Largest group (3.8%) from Myanmar

Source MOPH: to 30 Apr 2022
Policy Update
Changes to Thai approved COVID-19 vaccines

• **COOVAX** (Recombinant Spike Protein Vaccine) from the Serum Institute of India (SII) has been approved and listed in emergency use listing (EUL) by the Thai Food and Drug Administration (TFDA) for use in adults 18 years old and more

• TFDA has approved expanding of age group for two vaccines under EUL

1. **NOVOVAX**: expanding from 18 years and older to **12 years and older**. The recommended dose will be the same as in Adults – 0.5 ml per dose x 2 doses with 3 weeks interval

2. **Moderna**: expanding from 12 years and older to **6 years old and older**. Dose for 6-11 years old will be half of adult dose – 50 mcg (0.25 ml) x 2 doses with 4 weeks interval
### The MoPH’s Guidelines for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration (18 years and above)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>3rd dose booster</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dose 1</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dose 2</strong></th>
<th><strong>Interval</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dose 3</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>&gt;3 months</td>
<td>AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>Pf</td>
<td>&gt;3 months</td>
<td>Pf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>&gt;3 months</td>
<td>Pf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pf</td>
<td>Pf</td>
<td>&gt;3 months</td>
<td>Pf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>&gt;3 months</td>
<td>AZ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>4th dose booster</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dose 1</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dose 2</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dose 3</strong></th>
<th><strong>Interval</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dose 4</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>&gt;4 months</td>
<td>AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>Pf</td>
<td>&gt;4 months</td>
<td>Pf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SV/SP</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>&gt;4 months</td>
<td>Pf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>Pf</td>
<td>&gt;4 months</td>
<td>Pf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** A half-dose of Pfizer vaccine can be administered as a booster dose, depending on the clinician’s discretion and the vaccine recipient’s choice.

- AZ can be an option for recipients of AZ+AZ who do not wish to receive mRNA vaccines (>6 months interval)
- Moderna can be considered as booster doses in any regimen above.
- Individuals with a history of COVID-19 infection should get the vaccine 3 months after infection.

Source: MoPH’s press briefing 21 March 2022

SV=Sinovac
SP=Sinopharm
AZ=AstraZeneca
Pf=Pfizer
### COVID-19 vaccination programme for children and adolescent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Dosage</th>
<th>Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-6 yrs.</td>
<td>Pfizer x 2 doses</td>
<td>orange cap (10 micrograms/ 0.2 ml.)</td>
<td>8 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-11 yrs.</td>
<td>Pfizer x 2 doses</td>
<td>orange cap (10 micrograms/ 0.2 ml.)</td>
<td>8 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sinovac - Pfizer</td>
<td>Dose 1: Sinovac 0.5 ml./ dose</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dose 2: orange cap Pfizer (10 micrograms/ 0.2 ml.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 – 17 yrs.</td>
<td>Sinovac x 2 doses</td>
<td>0.5 ml./ dose</td>
<td>4 weeks*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 -17 yrs.</td>
<td>Pfizer x 2 doses</td>
<td>purple cap (30 micrograms/ 0.3 ml.)</td>
<td>3-4 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sinovac – Pfizer</td>
<td>Dose 1: Sinovac 0.5 ml./ dose</td>
<td>4 weeks**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dose 2: purple cap Pfizer (30 micrograms/ 0.3 ml.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* They should receive a booster dose with Pfizer (4 months interval after the 2\(^{nd}\) dose)

** They should receive a booster dose with Pfizer or Moderna (4-6 months interval after the 2\(^{nd}\) dose)

Source: MoPH’s press briefing 21 Mar 2022
MFA updates FAQs relating to Thailand Pass at
https://consular.mfa.go.th/th/content/thailand-pass-faqs-2
Although COVID-19 vaccination rates in Thailand are generally high, there still remains a significant minority of people who have not yet opted to protect themselves in this way. Some of these individuals know they were already infected with COVID and may think they have ‘naturally’ acquired immunity that is strong enough to protect them from another infection. Other people may think that the COVID variants currently circulating only cause mild infections and so assume they will not become unwell if they do become infected. Similarly, some parents may think it’s not necessary to get their children vaccinated, because children only get mild illness. Other people are concerned about whether vaccination will result in adverse reactions. For many of these individuals, their perception of the relative risks and benefits of vaccination is also understandably changing because of the current decline in the numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases being reported every day in Thailand.

The are two important reasons why vaccination against COVID-19 is still recommended. Firstly, it will reduce the risk that you or your child will become infected and become unwell with COVID-19. In this cases, the benefit is for you or your children. Secondly, if you are vaccinated, it will reduce the likelihood that you or your child passes on their infection to someone else. In this situation, the benefit is for other members of your family (who might be more vulnerable) and to the wider community.

In making a decision about whether or not to get vaccinated, it may be useful to consider (break down) the risk of infection by thinking about in terms of the likelihood of infection and the consequences of infection. Although in the current situation an unvaccinated person may be less likely to become infected; the consequences of becoming infected are the same now as they were at the peak of transmission. Although an infection in an individual may not be severe, vulnerable people are still at risk of becoming seriously unwell and dying. In addition, many people who become infected will unfortunately go on to be affected by so called ‘long COVID’. And for children, there is still a risk of developing the rare, but severe form of the illness known as MIS-C.

The likelihood of suffering any / all of these more serious consequences of COVID-19 infection are significantly reduced by vaccination. And even in the situation when COVID numbers are declining, the risk of vaccine side effects is still lower than the risk of acquiring COVID-19 infection. This is why vaccination continues to be strongly recommended by the Ministry of Public Health, and by WHO.
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

www.who.int/thailand @WHO Thailand

WHO Thailand WHO Thailand

#StopTheSpread of COVID-19

#MaskUpWell Maintain distance Wash hands frequently Get vaccinated

Cough/sneeze into bent elbow or tissue Avoid crowded places Open windows & be in well-ventilated places

#ItsOnUs