

COVID-19 Situation, Thailand

18 May 2022

Based on data as reported by the CCSA

4,388,204 total confirmed cases

29,595 total deaths

Daily average numbers reported from 11 May to 17 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 |



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All data from the Royal Thai Government and Ministry of Public Health unless otherwise stated

Situation Analysis

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

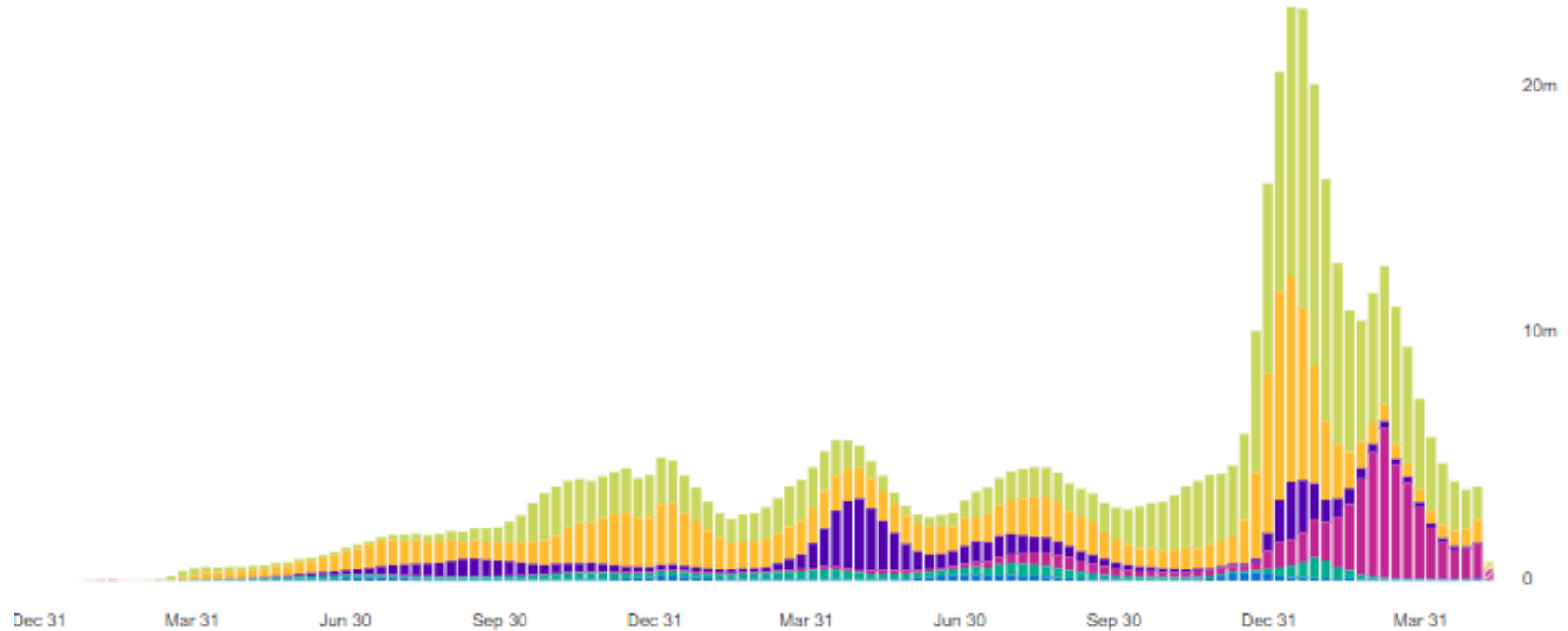
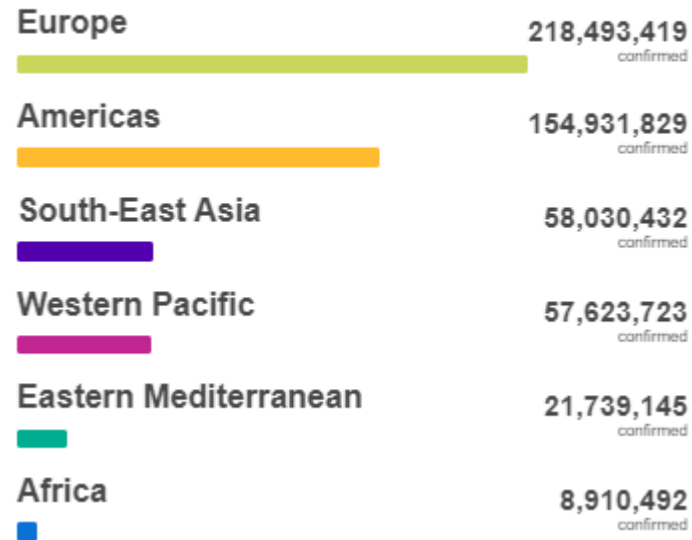
900 new deaths in last 24 hours

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

Situation by WHO Region



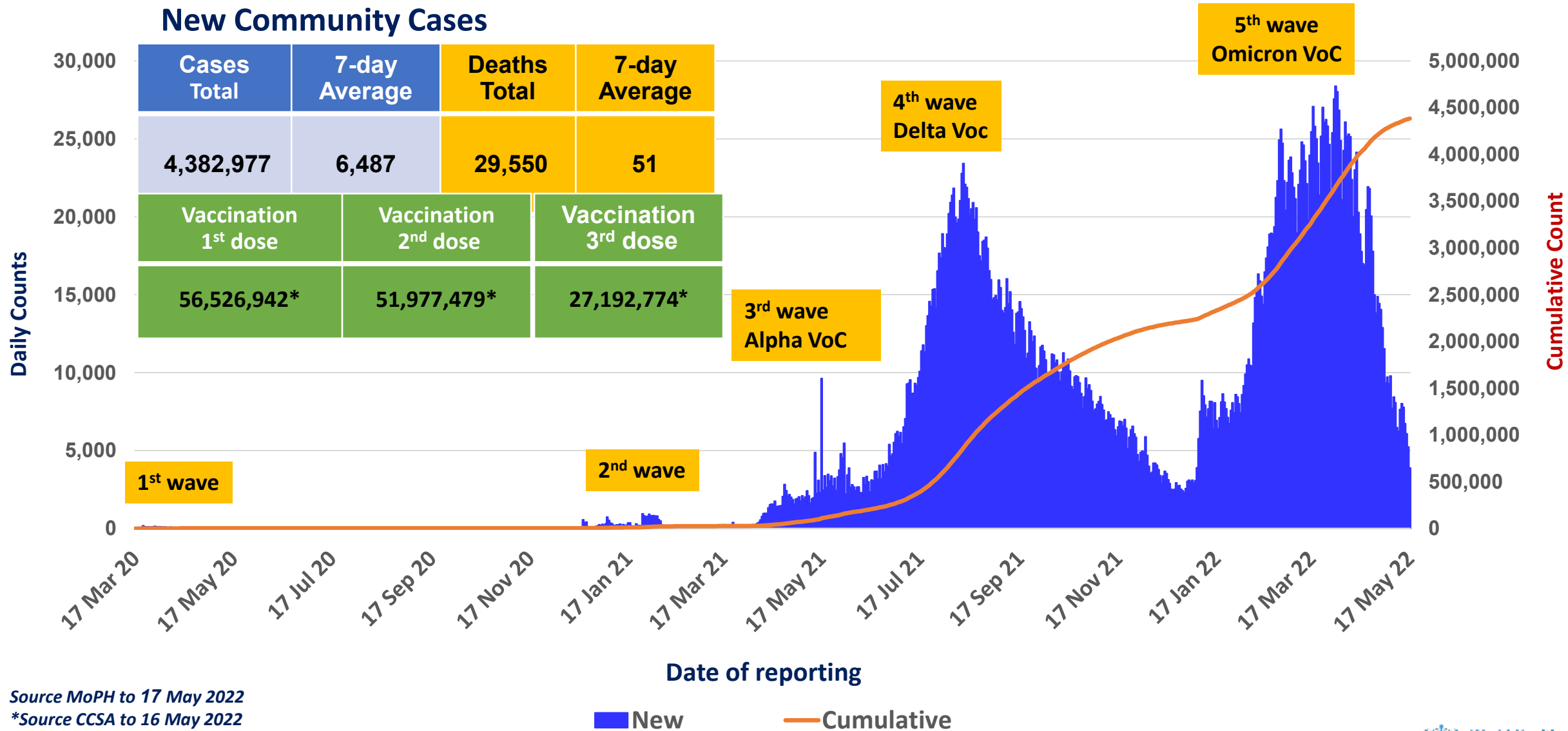
Source: <https://covid19.who.int/> - Data as of 17 May 2022, Vaccination data to 14 May 2022

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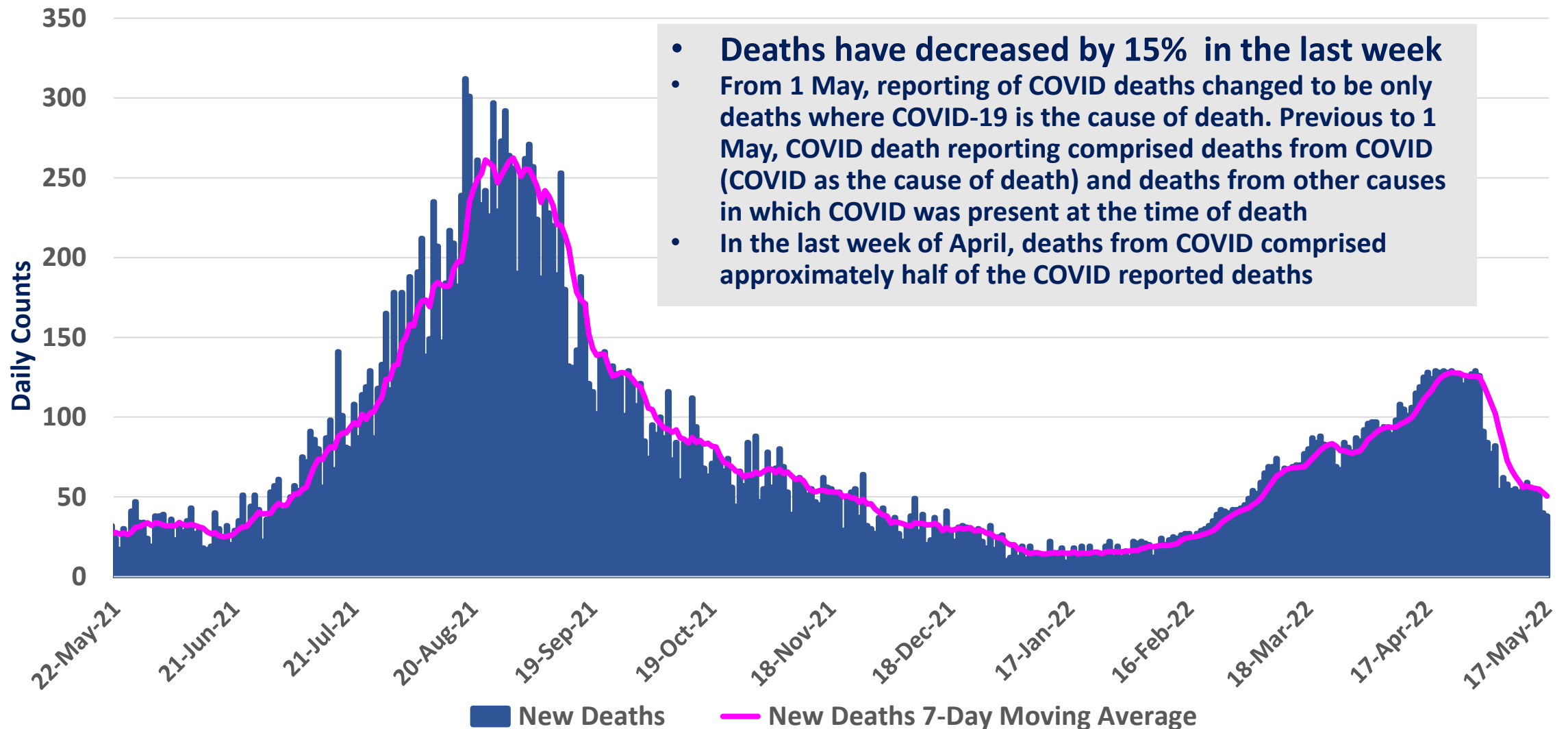
National Situation

Thailand COVID-19 cases, deaths and vaccinations to date: chart showing cases per day



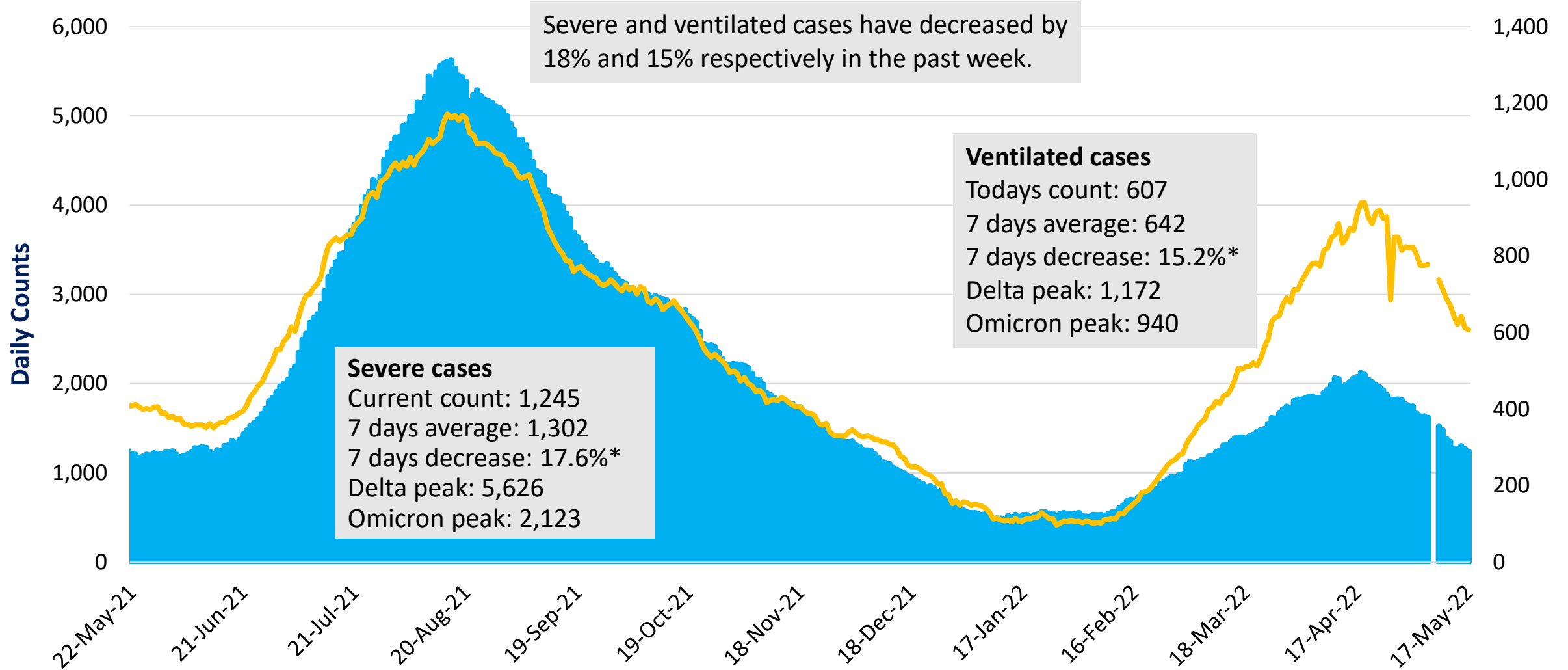
Source MoPH to 17 May 2022
*Source CCSA to 16 May 2022

COVID-19 deaths in Thailand



Source MoPH to 17 May 2022

Severe and ventilated COVID-19 cases



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

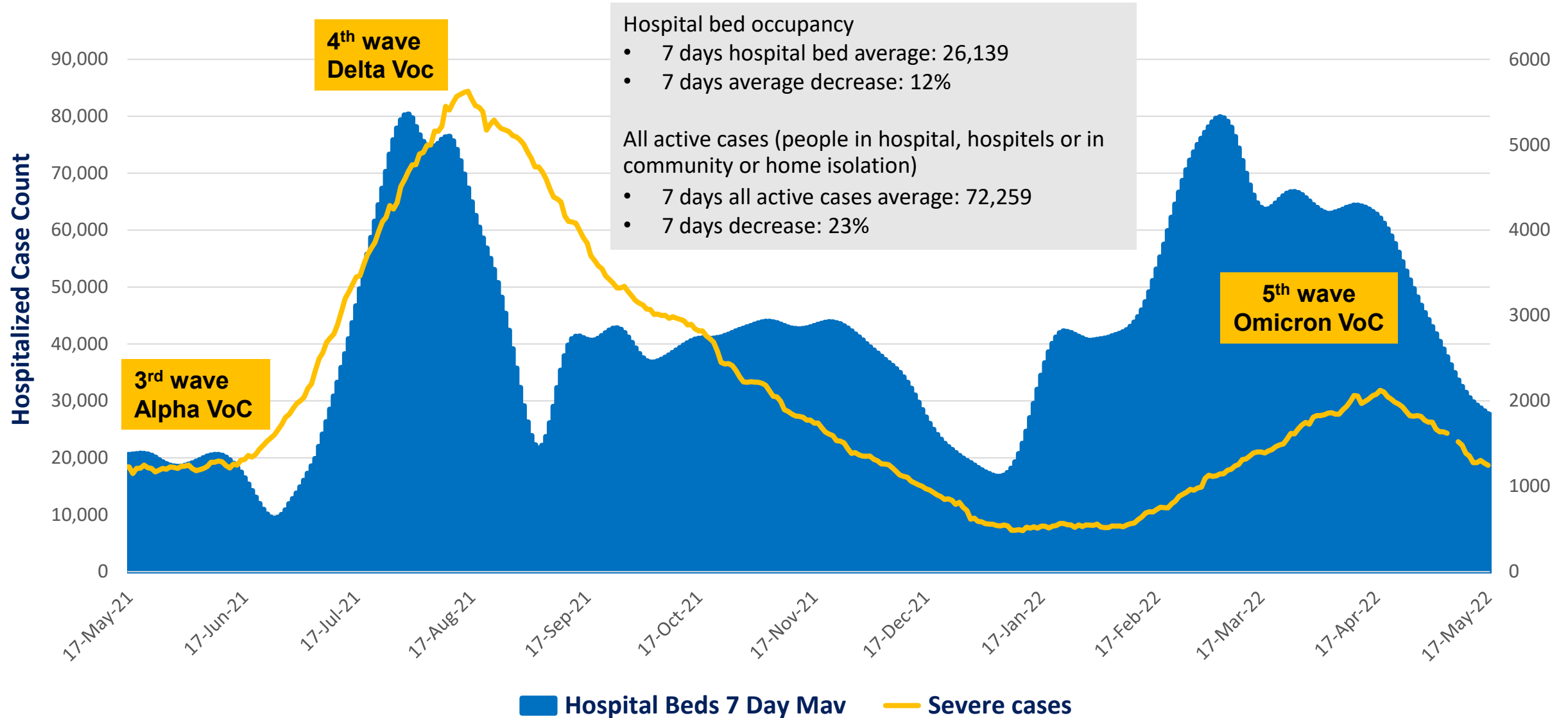
Source MoPH to 17 May 2022

Severe cases

Ventilated cases

*Compared to the week prior

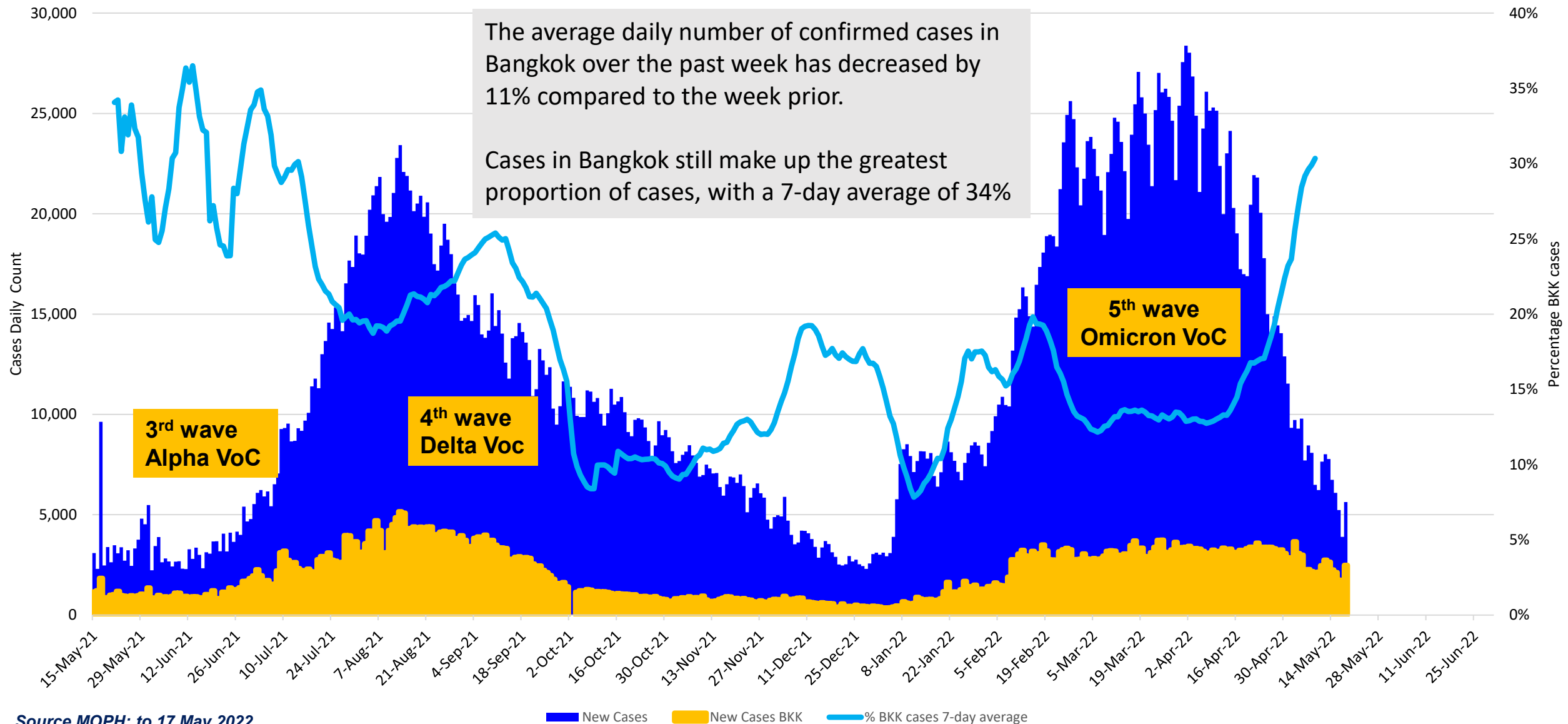
COVID-19 hospital bed occupancy (7-day average) and severe cases



Source MOPH: to 17 May 2022

Provincial Situation

COVID-19 proportion of new cases in Bangkok to all cases



Source MOPH: to 17 May 2022

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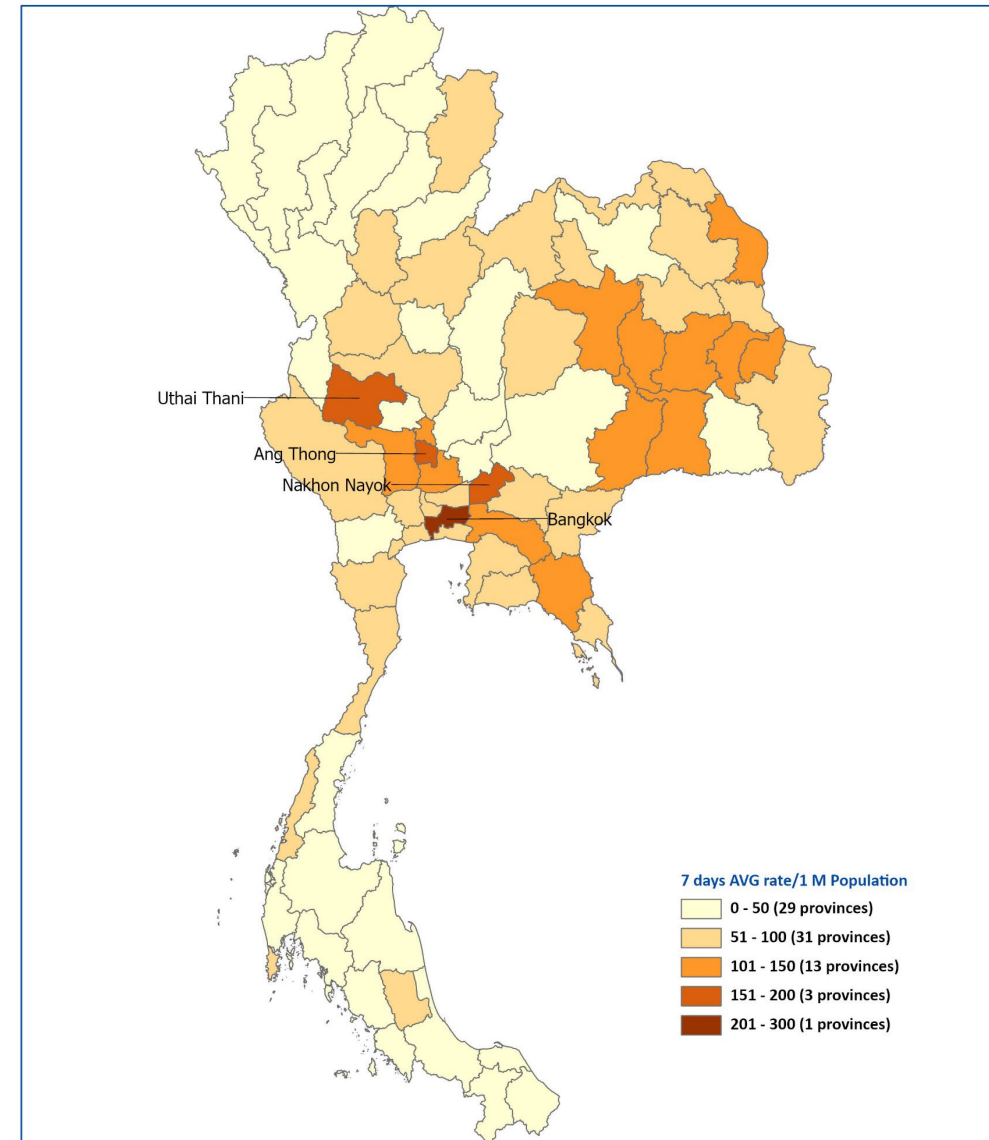
COVID-19 Update 19-May-22

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 weeks highest rate of an average of 310 cases per million population, also in Bangkok.
 - 51 provinces (66%) report an average of 100 or fewer cases per million population
 - 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.

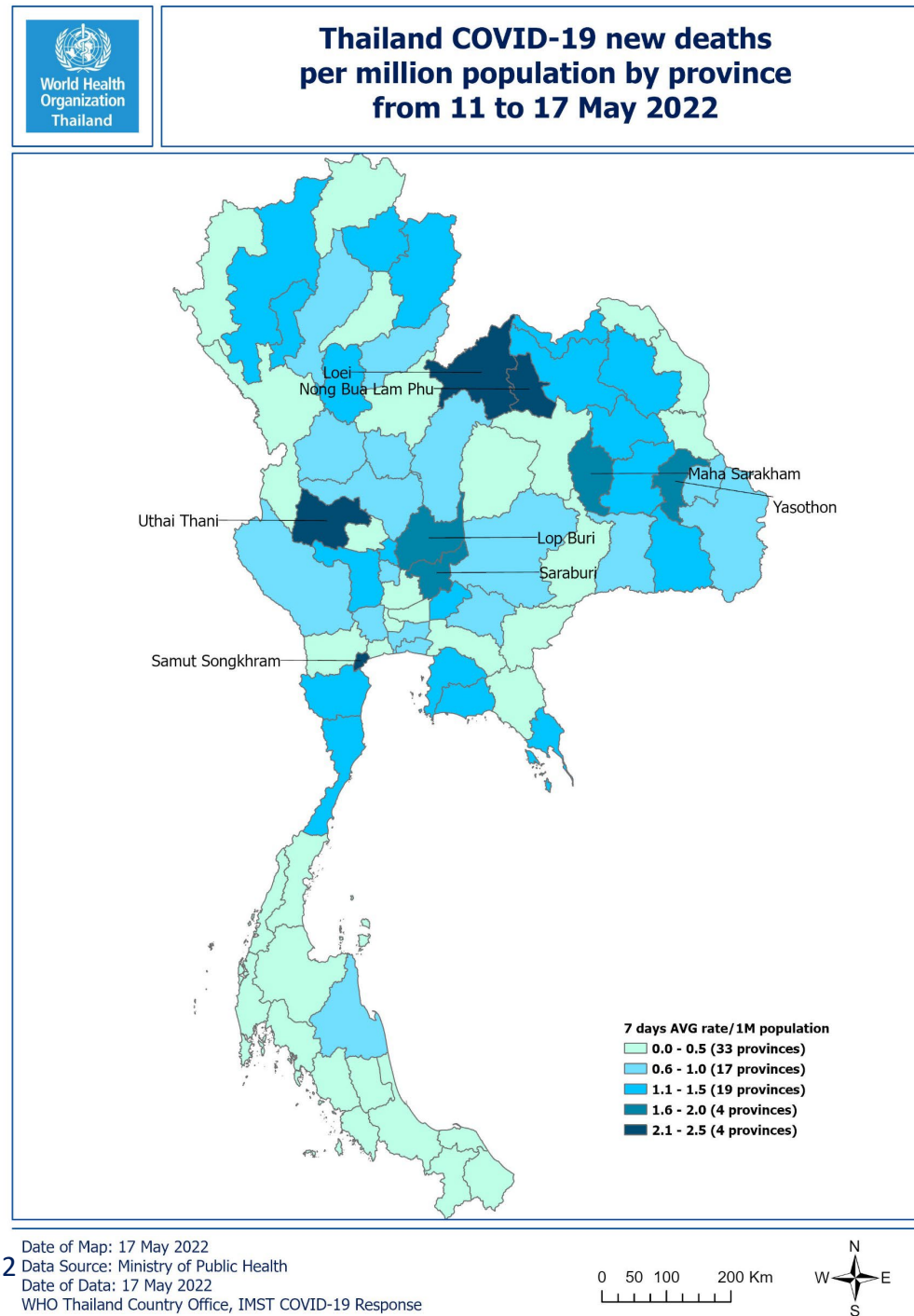


Thailand COVID-19 new cases
per 1,000,000 population by province
from 11 to 17 May 2022



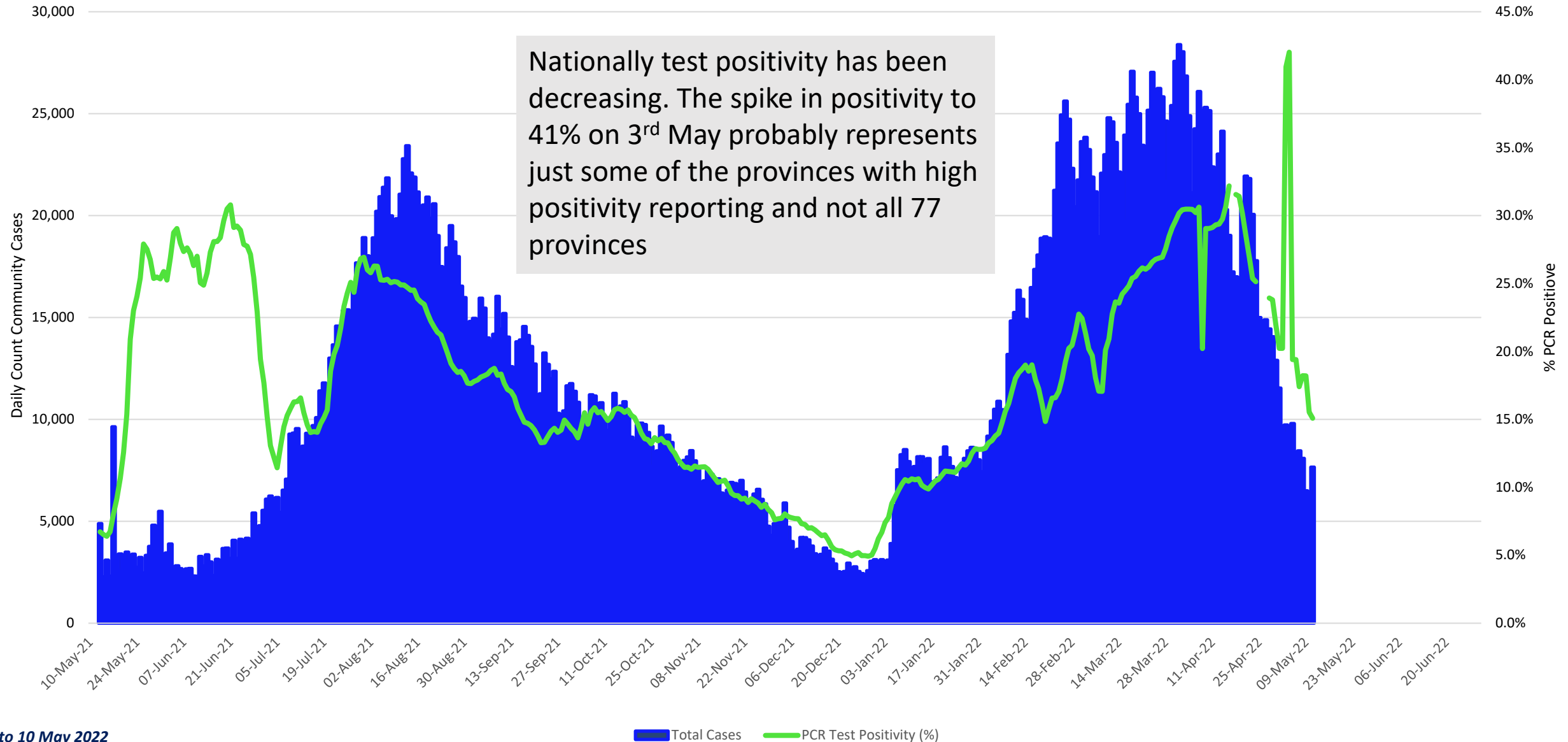
7-Day Average New COVID-19 deaths per million population by province

- 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.



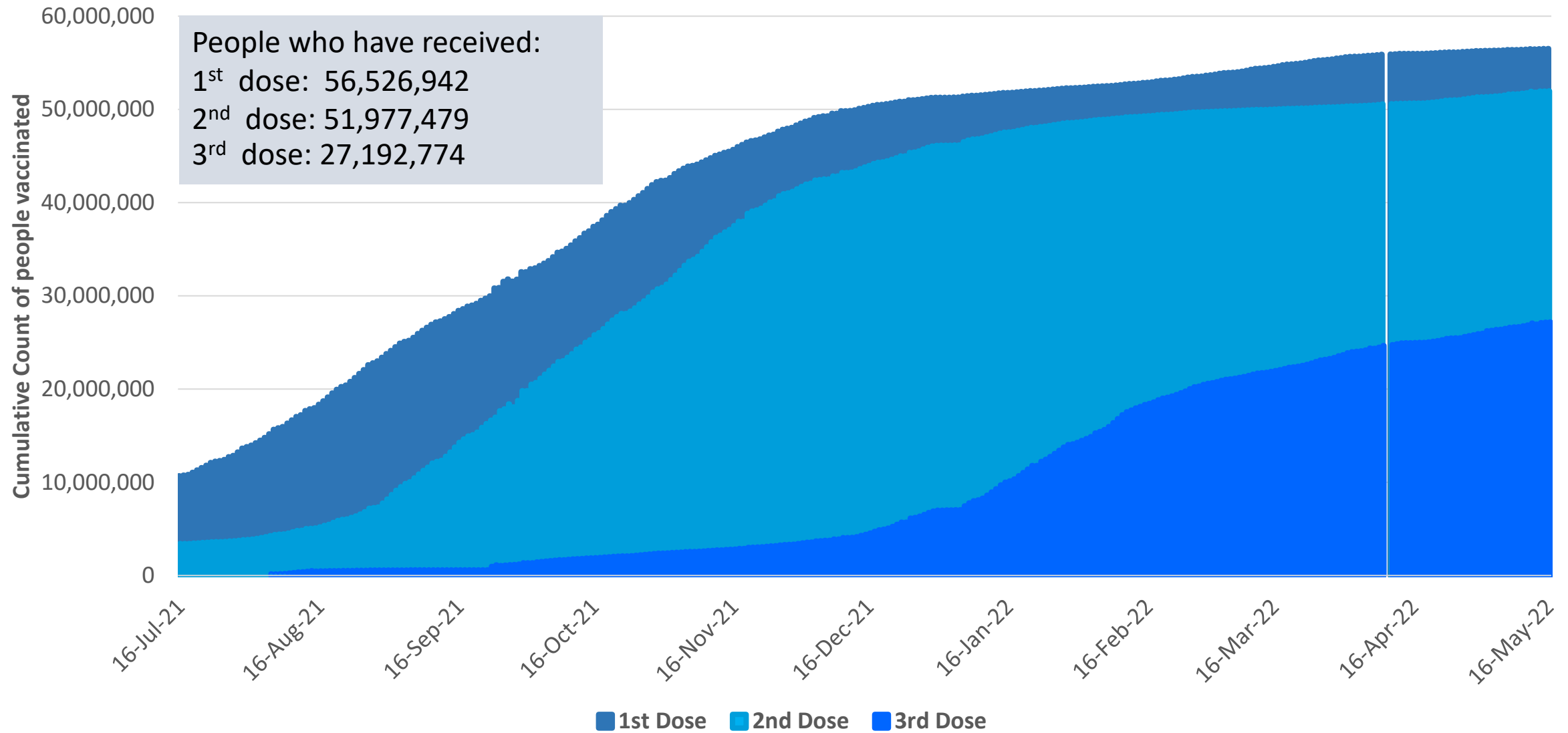
COVID Testing

Variation in 'Test Positivity Rate' over time*



Vaccination

National COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage



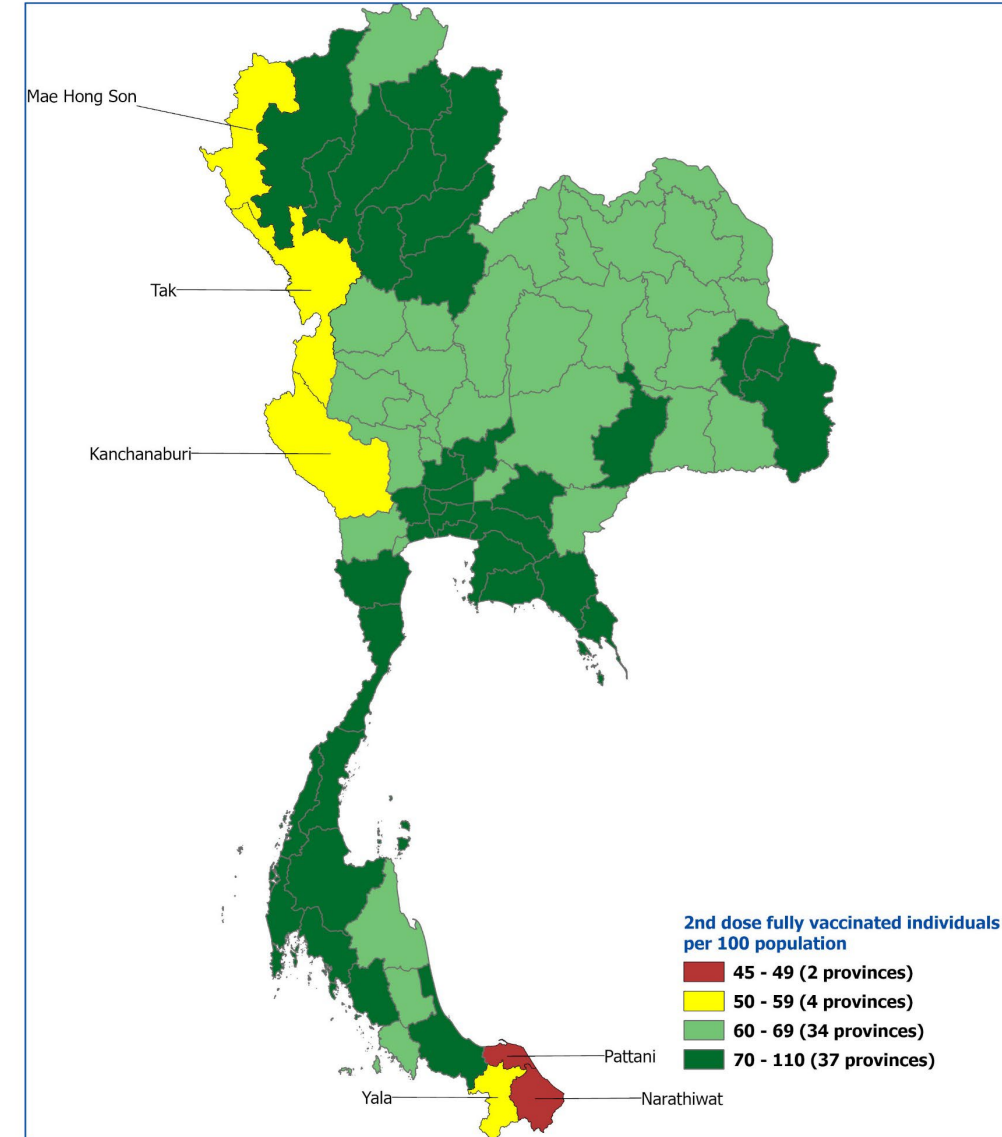
Source CCSA to 16 May 2022

Second dose coverage per million population by province

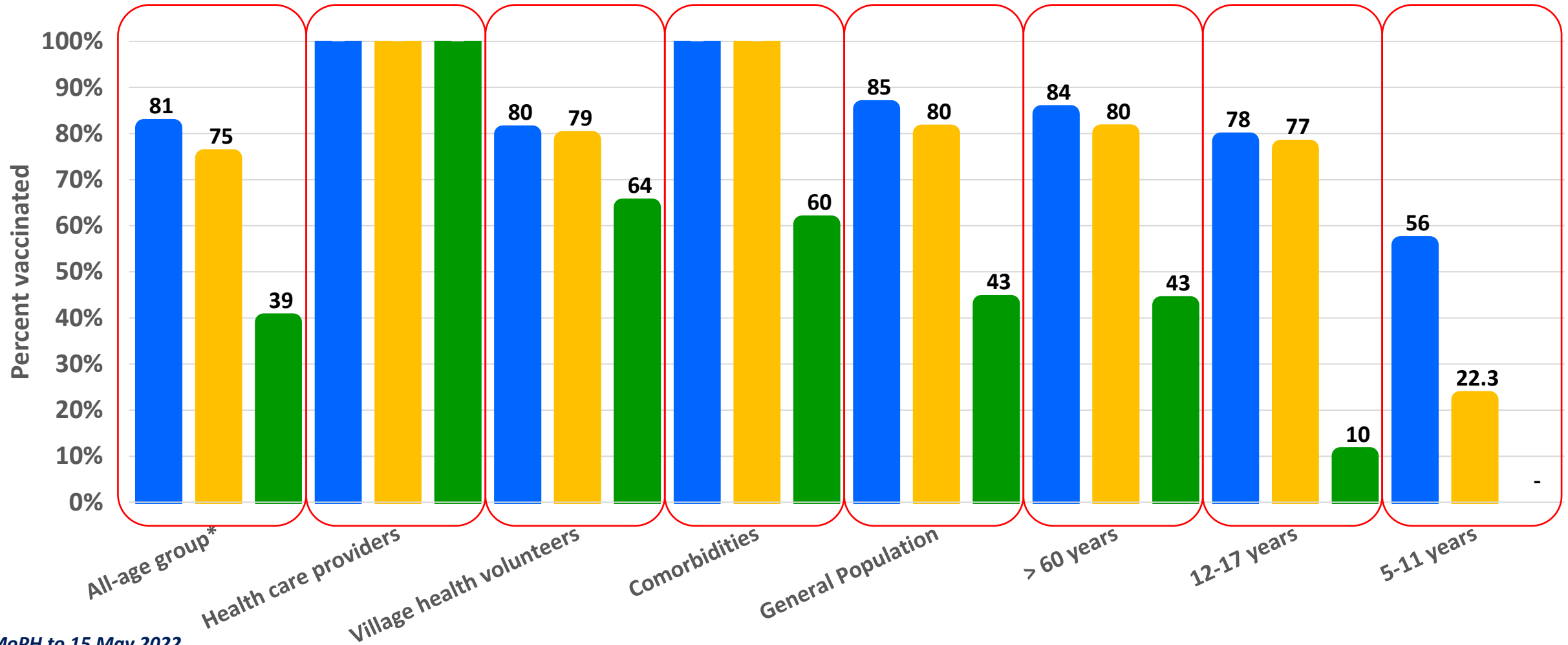
- The rate of 2-dose vaccination varies widely across all 77 provinces from 46% (Narathiwat) to Bangkok (100%).
- At the lower end of 2-dose vaccination coverage is increasing by less than half of one-percent per week.
- The pattern of distribution of 2-dose vaccination remains similar to previous weeks 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.



Second dose vaccination as a percentage of province population until 15 May 2022



Vaccination coverage: 1st dose, 2nd dose, 3rd dose and additional booster doses



MoPH to 15 May 2022

*CCSA to 16 May 2022

Blue = 1st dose

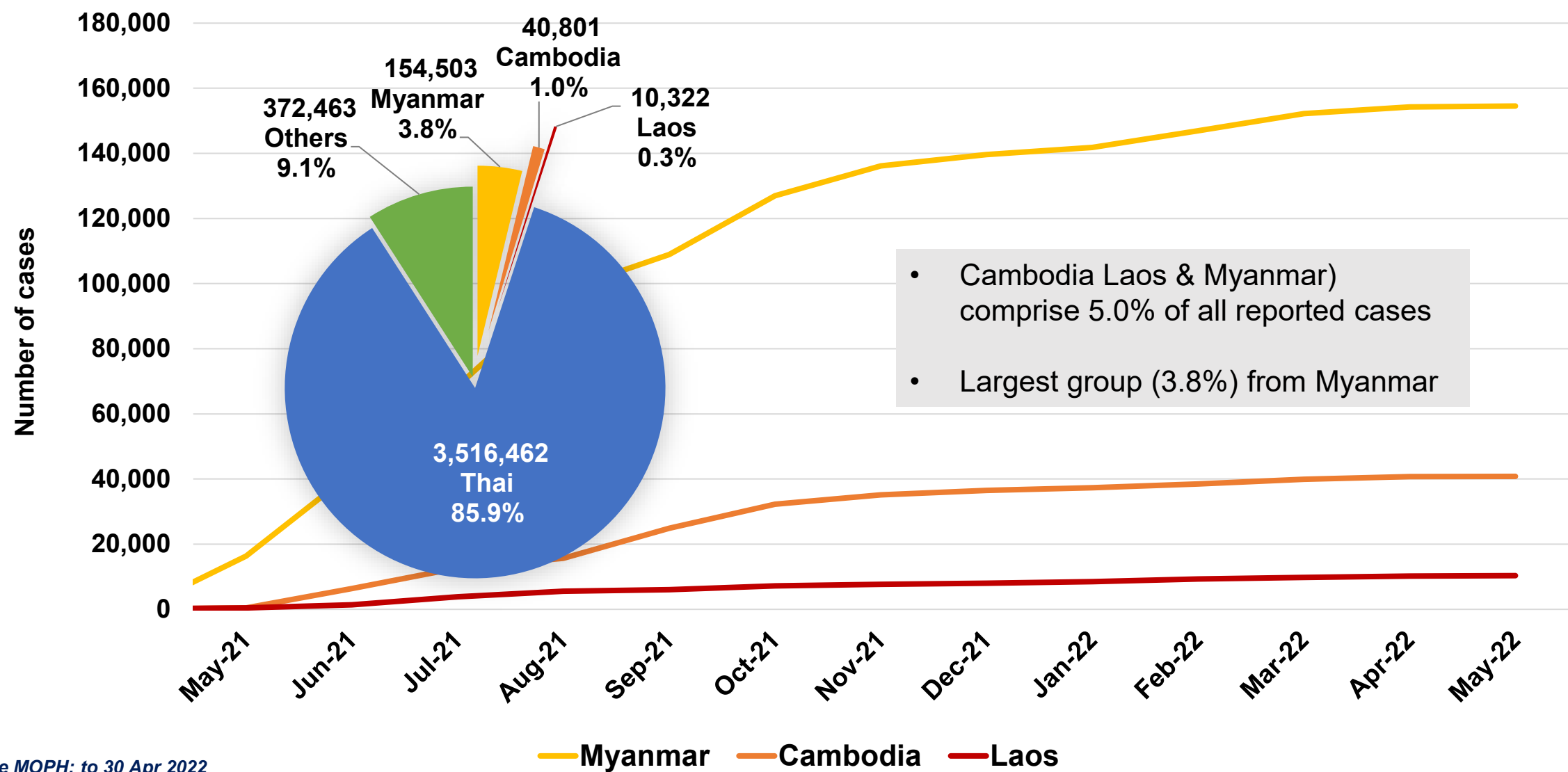
Yellow = 2nd dose

Green = 3rd dose includes also 4th and possibly 5th doses combined

COVID-19 burden on vulnerable population groups

Cumulative COVID-19 Cases reported to date by nationality

(30 April 2022)



Source MOPH: to 30 Apr 2022

Policy Update

Changes to Thai approved COVID-19 vaccines

- **COVOVAX** (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)

3 rd dose booster	Dose 1	Dose 2	Interval		Dose 3
	SV/SP	SV/SP	4 weeks		AZ
	SV/SP	AZ	>3 months		AZ
	SV/SP	Pf	>3 months		Pf
	AZ	AZ	>3 months		Pf
	Pf	Pf	>3 months		Pf
	AZ	Pf	>3 months		Pf
	AZ	AZ	>3 months		AZ
4 th dose booster	Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3	Interval	Dose 4
	SV/SP	SV/SP	AZ	>4 months	AZ
	SV/SP	SV/SP	Pf	>4 months	Pf
	SV/SP	AZ	AZ	>4 months	Pf
	AZ	AZ	Pf	>4 months	Pf

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.

SV=Sinovac
SP=Sinopharm
AZ=AstraZeneca
Pf=Pfizer

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COVID-19 Update

19-May-22

Source: MoPH's press briefing 21 March 2022

COVID-19 vaccination programme for children and adolescent

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

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

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

Source: MoPH's press briefing 21 Mar 2022

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COVID-19 Update 19-May-22



Entry Measures into Thailand by Air travel

(Effective on 1 May 2022 onwards / Register from 29 April 2022)

PRE-DEPARTURE

• Register on Thailand Pass



tp.consular.go.th



REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Exemption from Quarantine

1

Fully Vaccinated Persons



- ☒ Passport
- ☒ Certificate of vaccination (according to Thai Ministry of Public Health regulations)
- ☒ Proof of insurance with at least 10,000 USD coverage for medical treatments in Thailand (for non-Thais only)
- ☒ Thai Visa (if required)

2

Unvaccinated / Not Fully Vaccinated Persons

- ☒ Passport
- ☒ **RT-PCR test result issued within 72 hours before departure (must be uploaded in Thailand Pass only)**
- ☒ Proof of insurance with at least 10,000 USD coverage for medical treatments in Thailand (for non-Thais only)
- ☒ Thai Visa (if required)



Quarantine

Unvaccinated / Not Fully Vaccinated Persons



- ☒ Passport
 - ☒ Alternative Quarantine (AQ) hotel confirmation for 5 days (including 1 RT-PCR test* and airport transfer)
 - ☒ Proof of insurance with at least 10,000 USD coverage for medical treatments in Thailand (for non-Thais only)
 - ☒ Thai Visa (if required)
- *undergo a RT-PCR test on Day 4 - 5 in Thailand during the mandatory 5-day quarantine at AQ hotel



Vaccines approved by Thailand



Vaccination Criteria for travellers into Thailand

02-572-8442

Department of Consular Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs



MFA updates FAQs relating to Thailand Pass at

<https://consular.mfa.go.th/th/content/thailand-pass-faqs-2>

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EXPLAINER: COVID-19

Vaccination benefits and risks in children and adults

Q: How do I decide if I or my child should be vaccinated against COVID-19?

A: In the current situation, it may be useful to think about the risk of natural infection in terms of likelihood and consequences. Although with COVID cases declining the likelihood of infection may be lower, the consequences of infection are unchanged. Vaccination will provide significant protection against all severe forms of infection and the risk of any side effect is still lower.

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.

There 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 case, 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.



Click on the image to watch the WHO Science in 5 on COVID-19 vaccination in children where Dr Soumya Swaminathan, WHO's Chief Scientist, speaks about benefits and risks of COVID-19 vaccination in children

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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www.who.int/thailand



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WHO Thailand

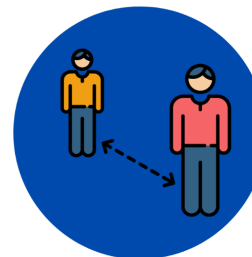


WHO Thailand

#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



World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR
South-East Asia

#ItsOnUs