

COVID-19 Situation, Thailand

25 May 2022

4,424,344 total confirmed cases

29,844 total deaths

Daily average numbers reported from 18 May to 24 May 2022 (compared to the week prior)



5,251 new confirmed cases (6,487) 19% ↔



37* deaths (51) 26% ↓

*(Counting deaths changed to 'deaths from COVID' where previously COVID deaths also included 'deaths with COVID')



7,422 people recovered (8,817) 34% ↓



131,814 vaccinations (111, 245) 18.5% ↑

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 (5,251) decreased by 19% in the past 7 days compared to the previous week (6,487, also a reduction of 19%). The average number of probable (ATK positive) cases per day over the last week decreased by 4% (the lowest reduction since 29 March).

Bangkok continues to report the highest daily number of COVID cases (with a weekly average of 2,049) but reported a 7-day average decrease of 3.5%, a noticeably smaller decrease than nationally. On average, over the previous 7 days, 39% of all cases have been in Bangkok.

The reduction in new cases has seen the average daily number of all currently 'active' COVID-19 cases (56,075) over the last seven days decrease by 22% compared to the previous week (72,259). 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 (21,411) decreased by 18%.

The weekly average number of daily deaths decreased by 26% to 37. Although this continues to decrease, most of these deaths would have been prevented if vaccination rates were higher, particularly in vulnerable groups.

The average daily number of severe COVID-19 cases over the past seven days (1,061) decreased 19% over the previous week (1,302).

The average daily number of ventilated COVID-19 cases over the past seven days (523) has decreased by 19% compared to the number the week before (642).

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 half of all cases in Thailand reported in the last 5-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 (24 May 2022)

523,786,368 confirmed cases

357,682 new cases in last 24 hours

6,279,667 deaths

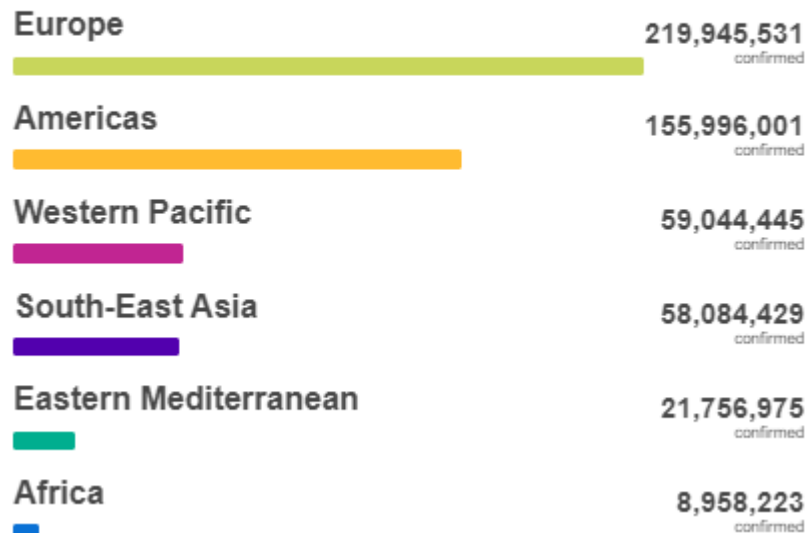
1,030 new deaths in last 24 hours

11,752,954,673 vaccine doses administered (22 May 2022)

5,188,471,791 persons vaccinated with at least one dose

4,690,376,664 persons fully vaccinated

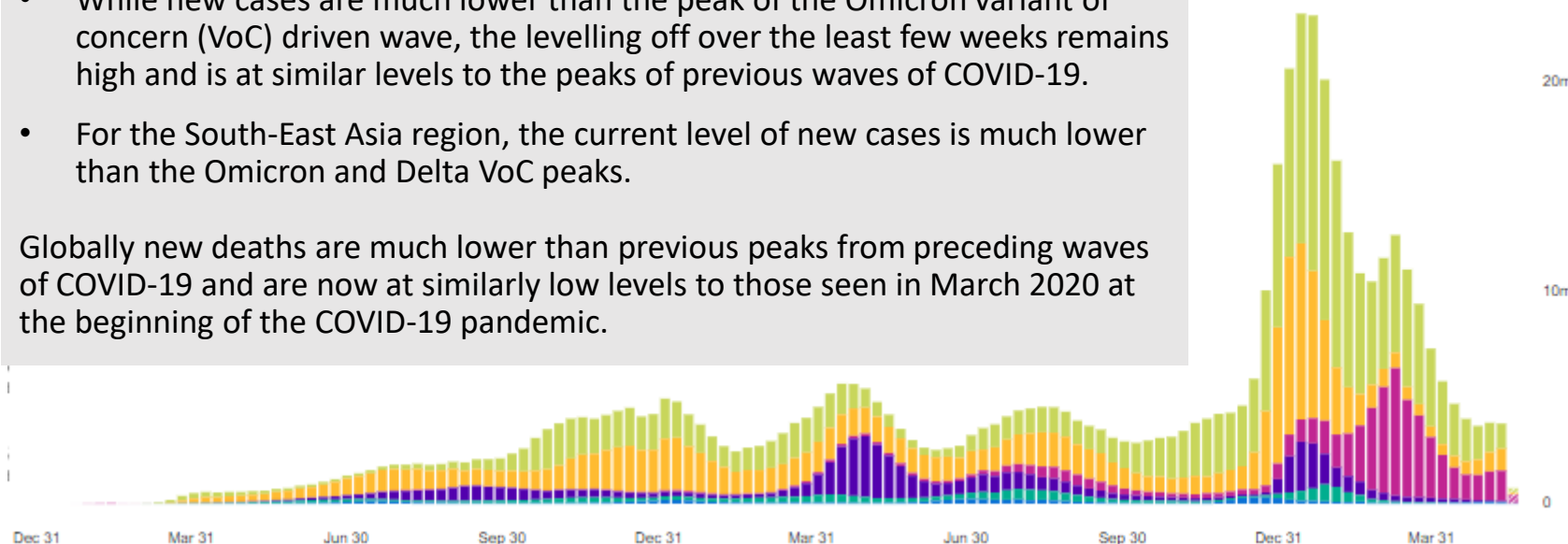
Situation by WHO Region



There has been increases of new cases of COVID-19 in some WHO regions, though globally the trend has levelled over the last few weeks.

- While new cases are much lower than the peak of the Omicron variant of concern (VoC) driven wave, the levelling off over the least few weeks remains high and is at similar levels to the peaks of previous waves of COVID-19.
- For the South-East Asia region, the current level of new cases is much lower than the Omicron and Delta VoC peaks.

Globally new deaths are much lower than previous peaks from preceding waves of COVID-19 and are now at similarly low levels to those seen in March 2020 at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.



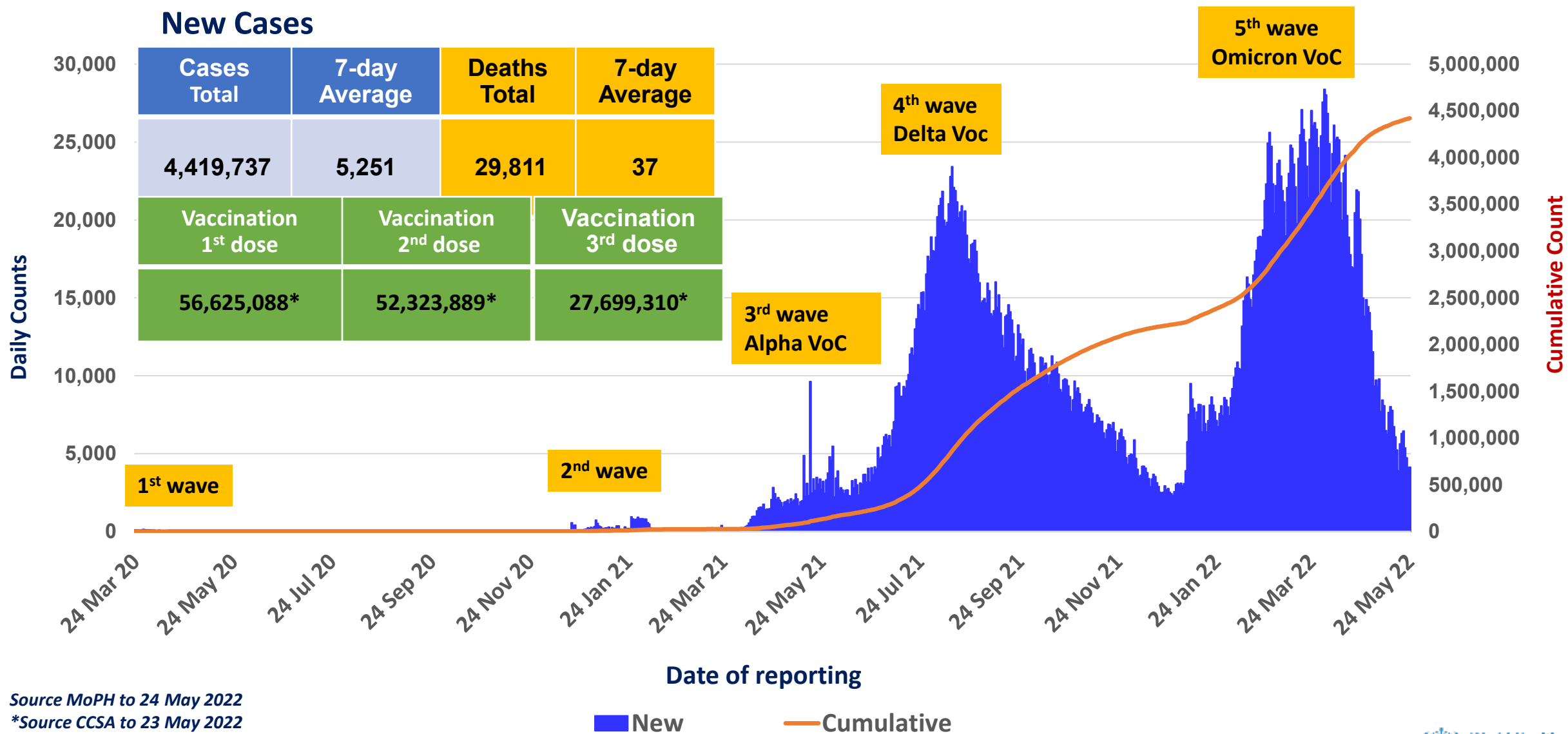
Source: <https://covid19.who.int/> - Data as of 24 May 2022, Vaccination data to 22 May 2022

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National Situation

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

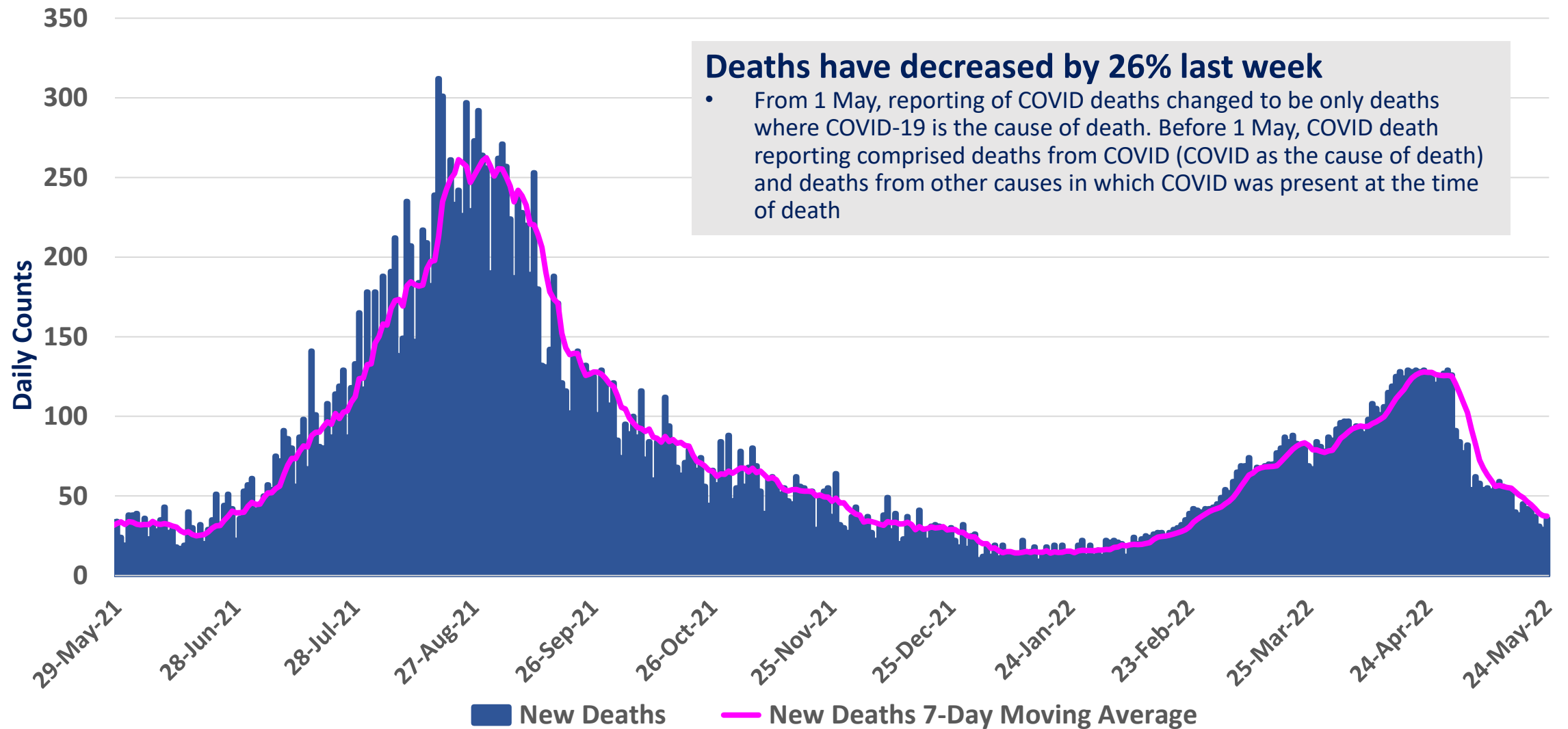


Source MoPH to 24 May 2022
*Source CCSA to 23 May 2022

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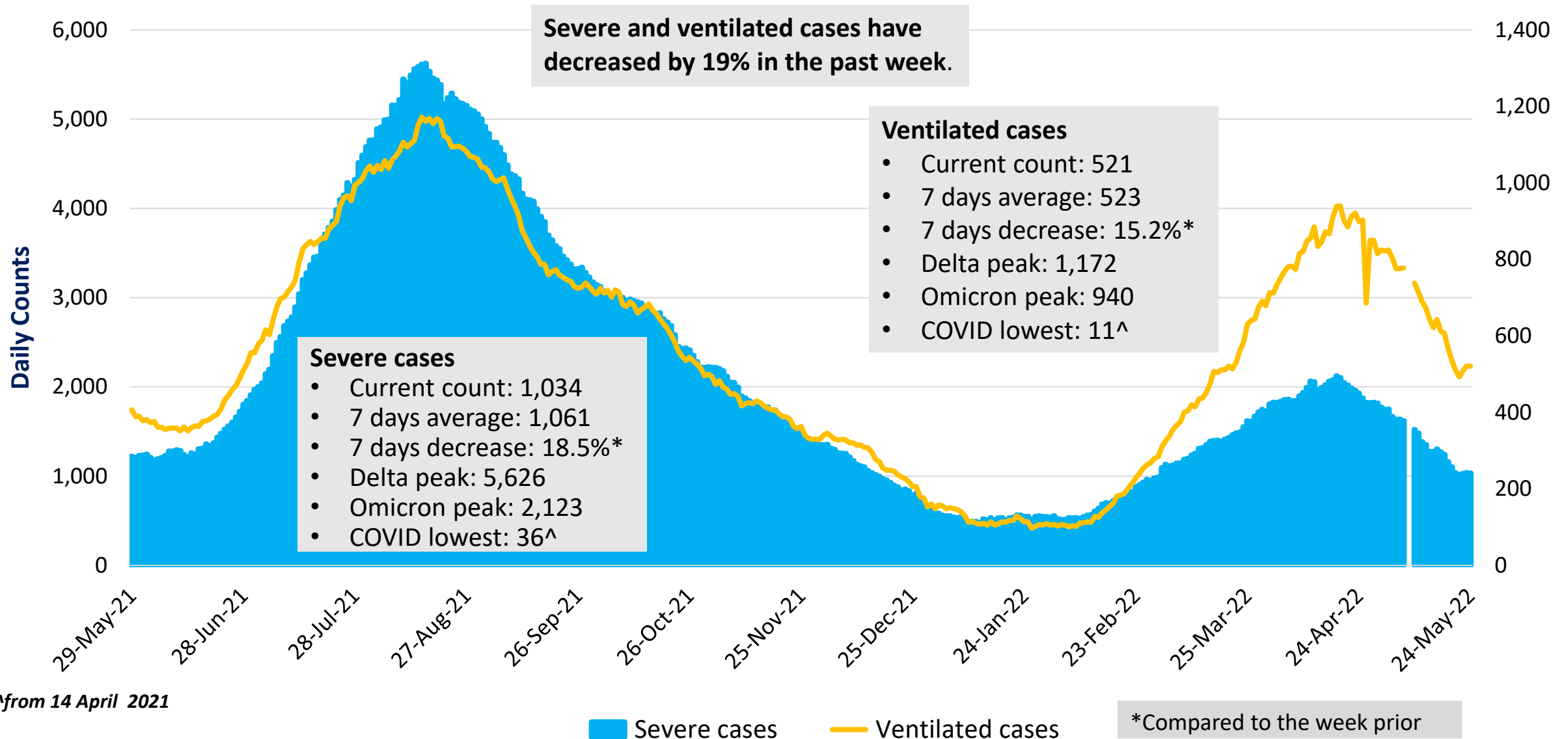


COVID-19 deaths in Thailand



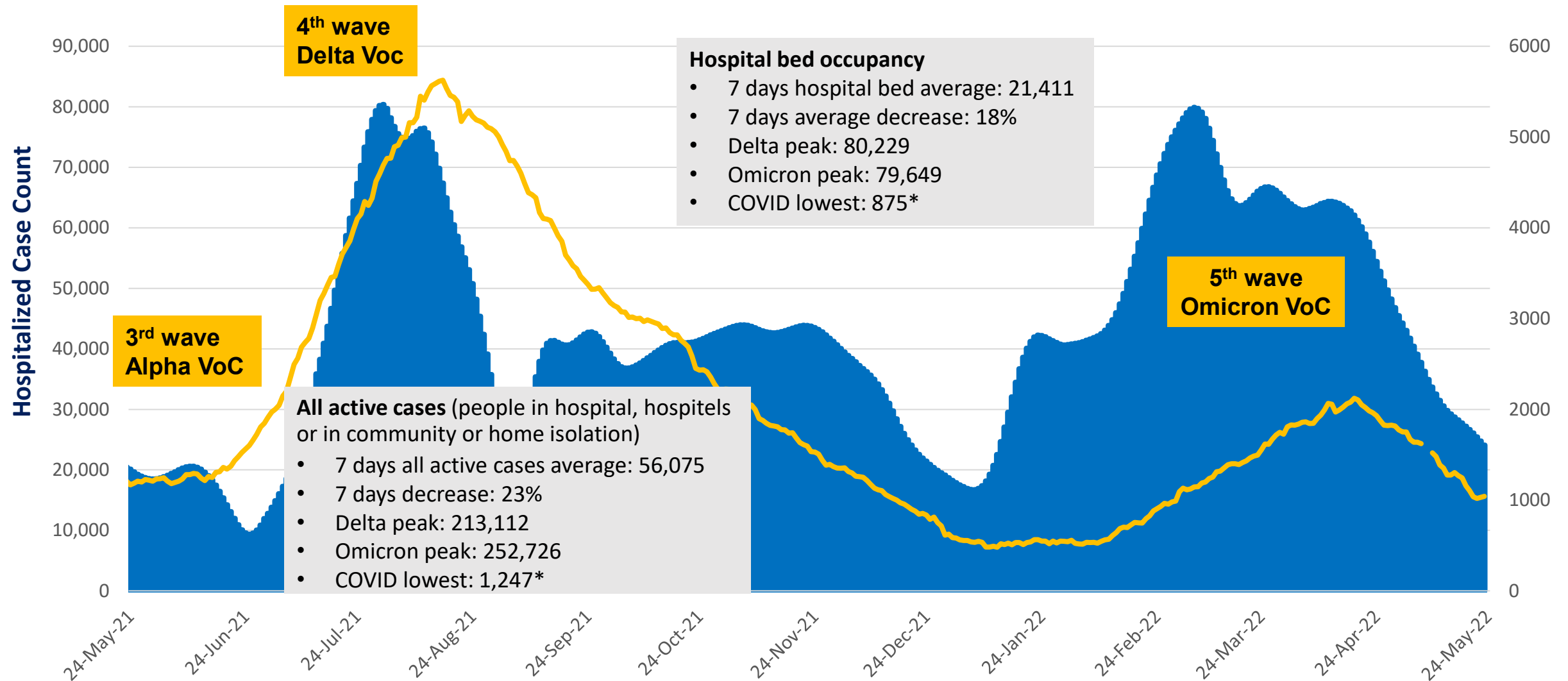
Source MoPH to 24 May 2022

Severe and ventilated COVID-19 cases



Source MoPH to 24 May 2022

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

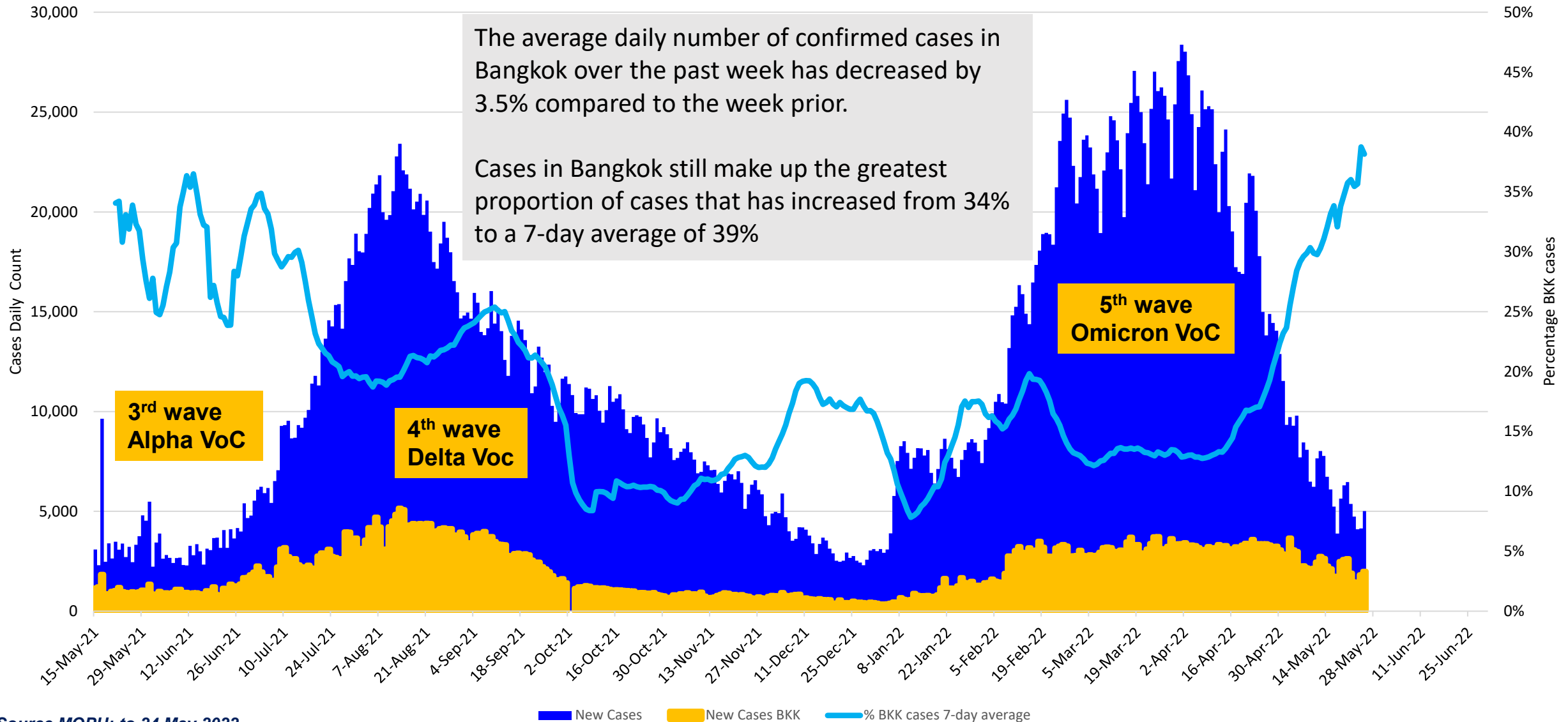


*from 1 April 2021

Source MOPH: to 24 May 2022

Provincial Situation

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



Source MOPH: to 24 May 2022

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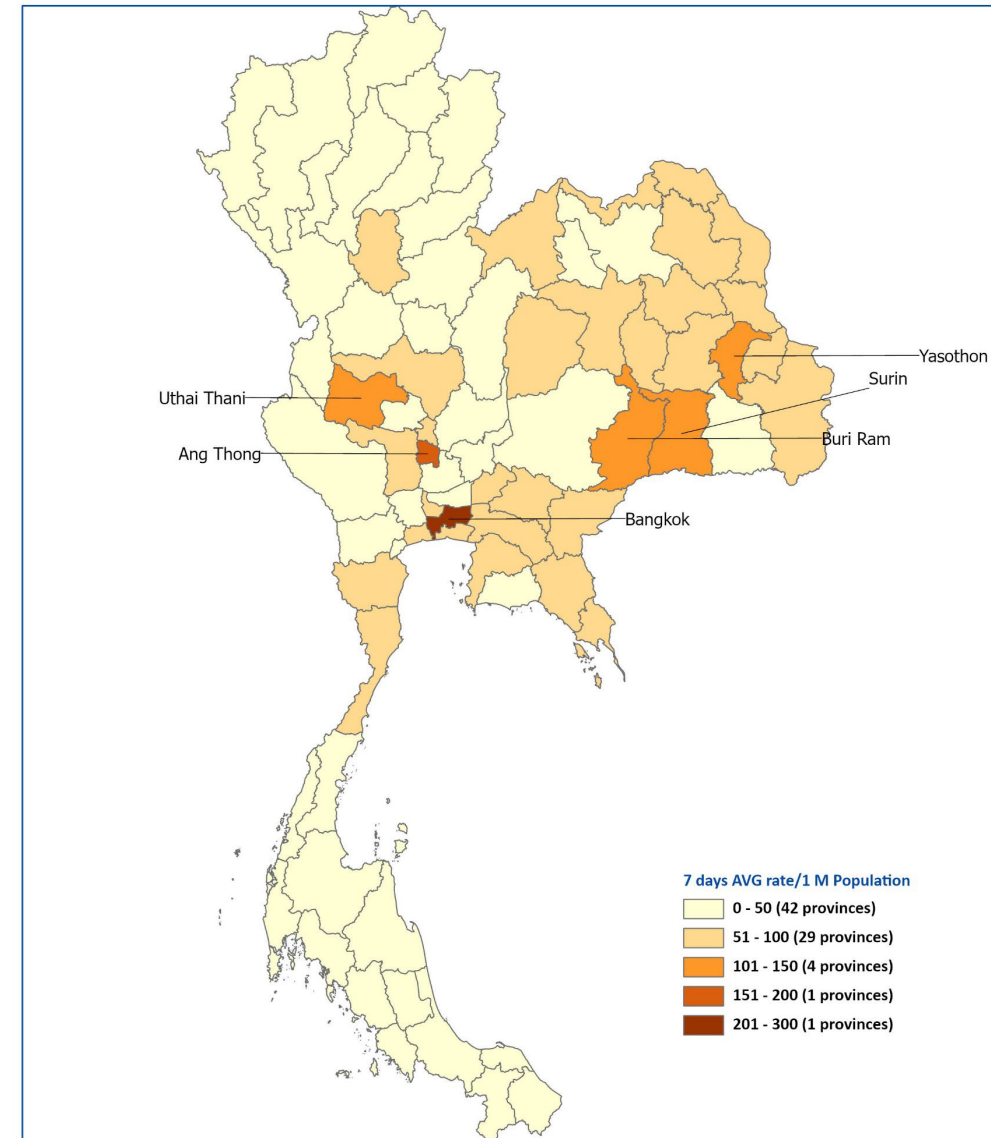
COVID-19 Update 25-May-22

New COVID-19 cases per million population by province

- The average new cases per million population are decreasing across provinces, with lower average rates of new cases being reported far more widely across the country
- The variation between the lowest rate to the highest average rate of new cases was 0 (Lampang) to an average of 266 cases per million population (Bangkok). This is a 3.6% decrease from the previous weeks highest rate of an average of 276 cases per million population, also in Bangkok.
 - 71 (92%) of provinces report an average of 100 or fewer case per million population, an increase from 51 (66%) provinces in the previous week
 - Like the previous week, only Bangkok has an average of greater than 200 cases per million population, 76 (96%) of 77 provinces report an average of 151 or fewer cases per million population
- Higher rates of cases continue to be seen mainly in the North-East of Thailand (Buri Ram, Surin, and Yasothon), and continuing around Bangkok, in Ang Thong and Uthai Thani.

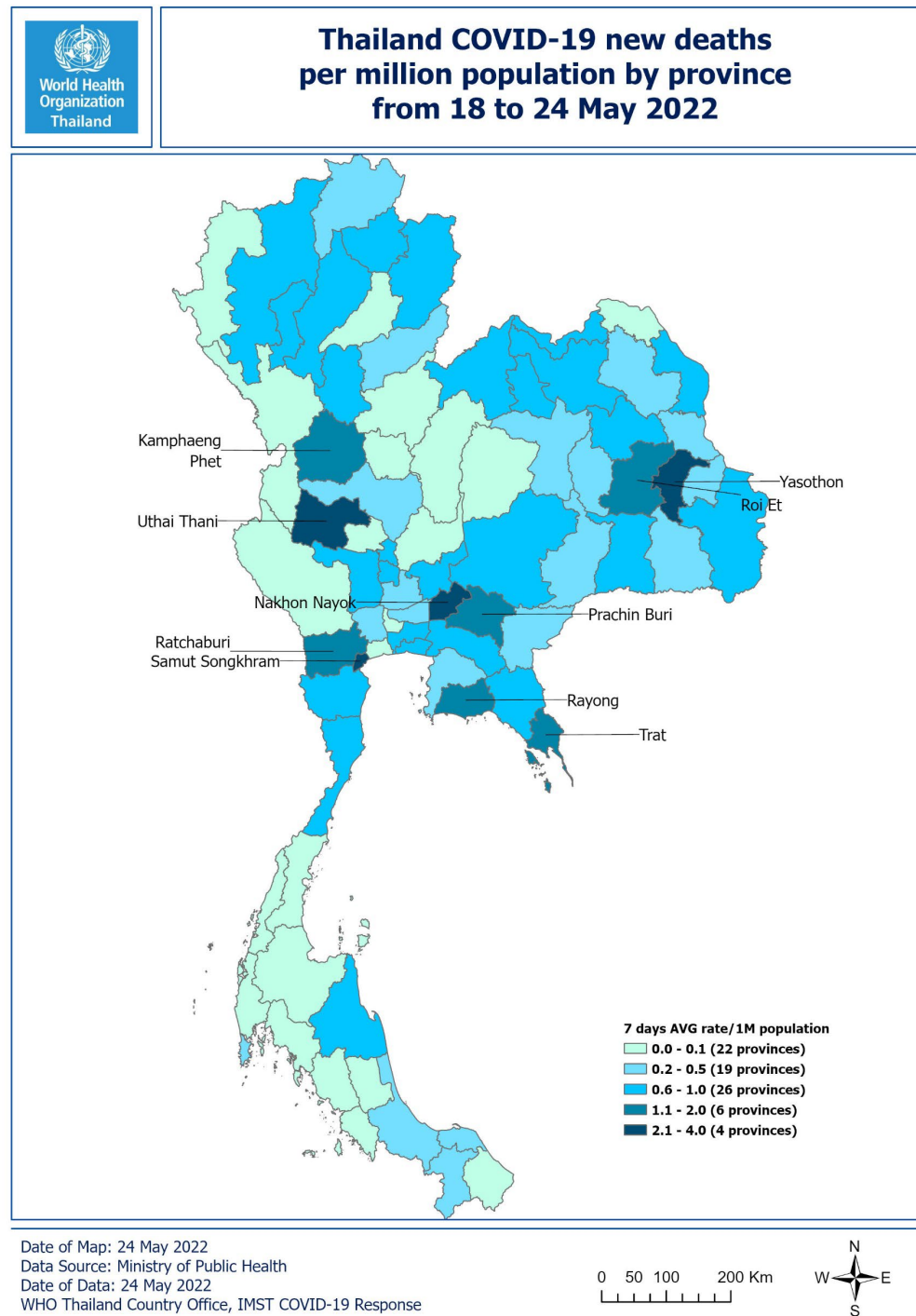


Thailand COVID-19 new cases
per 1,000,000 population by province
from 18 to 24 May 2022



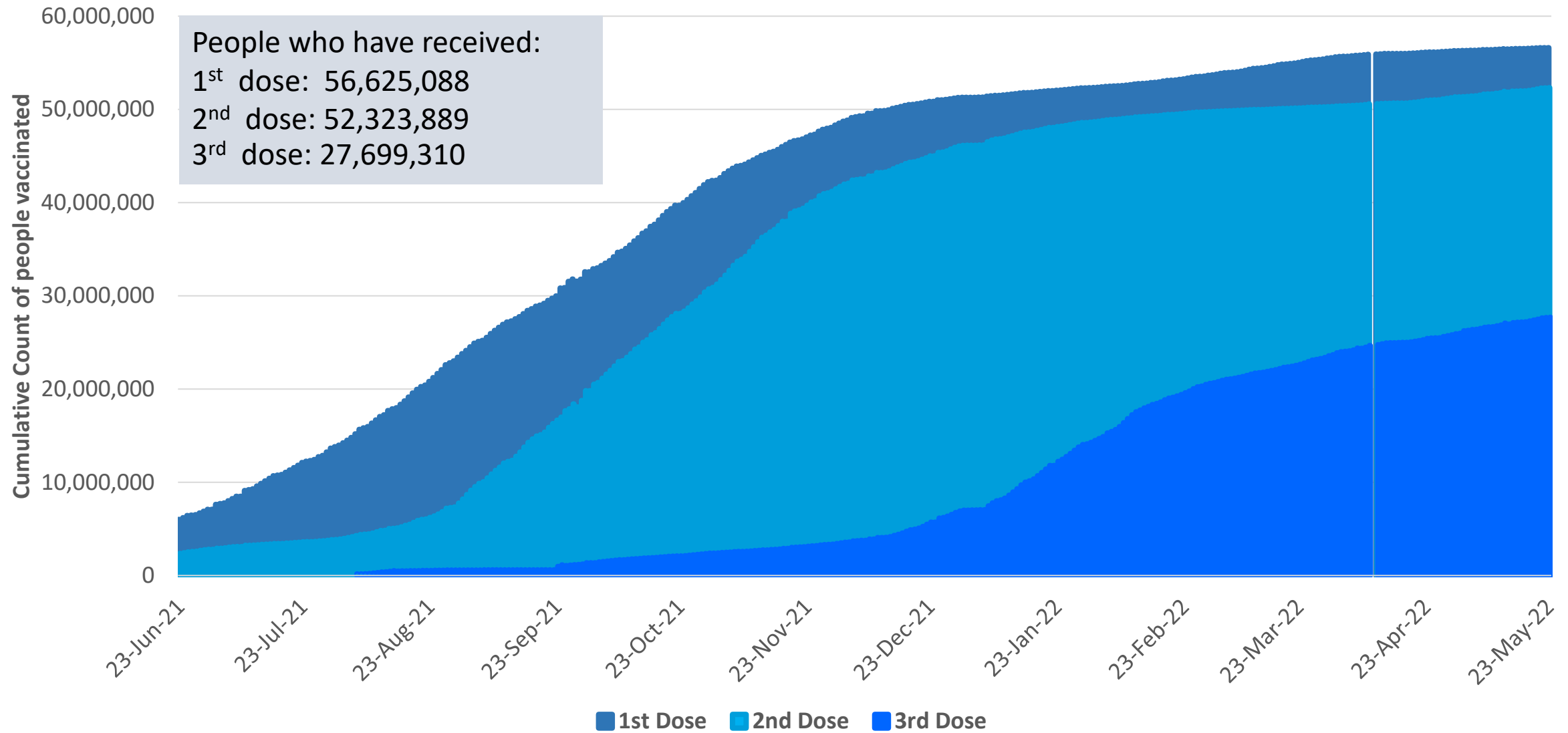
New COVID-19 deaths per million population by province

- The average rate of deaths per million population over the past week ranged from 0 (21 provinces, up from 17 provinces in the previous week) to 3.8 average deaths per million province population (Uthai Thani, Yasothon). This is an increase (58%) from the maximum average of 2.2 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) increased to 67 (87%) from 52 (67%) in the previous week
 - As with last week the provinces reporting the highest average rate of deaths has changed but continues to include provinces in the North-East (Roi Et and Yasothon) together with Eastern, Central and Western provinces.
 - Yasothon and Uthai Thani also report also reporting high rate of new cases, see previous slide
 - Far Northern and Southern provinces have reported lower average rates of deaths per million population.



Vaccination

National COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage



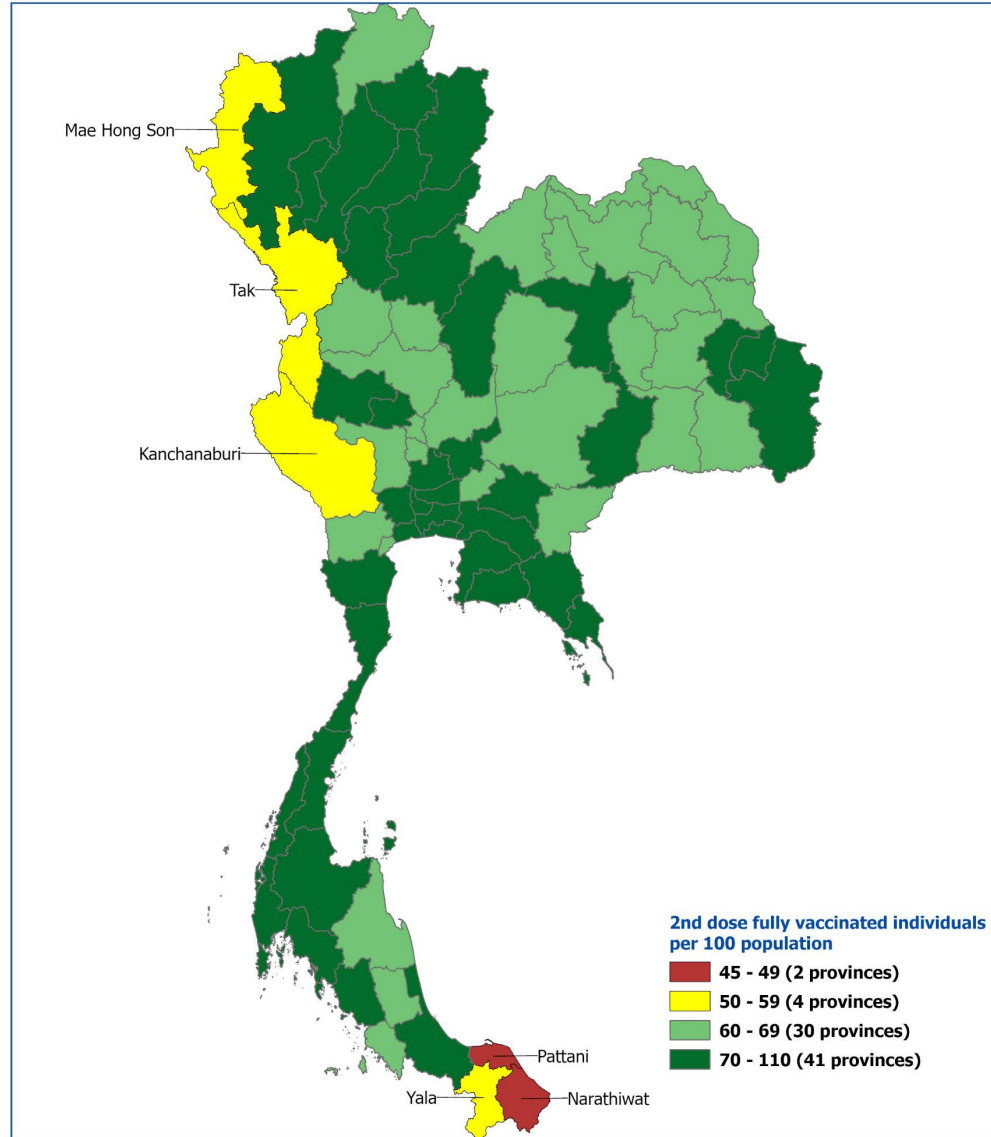
Source CCSA to 23 May 2022

Percentage of the population vaccinated against COVID-19 by Province

- The level of 2-dose vaccination continues to vary widely across all 77 provinces from 46% (Narathiwat, no change from previous weeks) to Bangkok (100%).
- At the lower end of 2-dose vaccination, coverage is either not increasing (Narathiwat) or increasing by less than half of one-percent per week (Pattani, increasing from 46.7% to 46.8%).
- The pattern of distribution of 2-dose vaccination remains similar to previous weeks though with the number of provinces in the highest category of 69% or more population coverage increasing from 37 to 41 provinces: Khon Kaen in the North-East, and Chai Nat, Phetchabun and Uthai Thani in the central region
 - The same 2 provinces continue to have less than 50% 2-dose coverage, are located in the far south (Narathiwat and Pattani)
 - The number of provinces with greater than 80% 2-dose vaccination has increased by 1 (Nakhon Pathom) province to 10.
- 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 22 May 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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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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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: Safe School Opening

Q:: Is it safe for schools to open when COVID-19 infections are still occurring?

A: Yes, it's safe provided the right prevention and response measures are in place, in schools, including advocacy for and practical arrangements to support the vaccination of students.



Since the onset of the COVID19 pandemic, it's been recognised that children and adolescents quite frequently do not develop symptoms when infected with SARS-CoV-2. Even when younger people become unwell with COVID-19, there's a much lower risk of developing severe illness. Compared to previously, the risks to children are even lower now with less severe 'Variants of Concern' in circulation and the widespread availability of the COVID-19 vaccine.

However, because children were believed to play a role in the transmission of infection (both to family members and the wider community), public health measures applied in many countries in the past two years have sometimes included withdrawing children from school or closing schools altogether.

Keeping children from school clearly has undesirable consequences, including poor learning and impacts on the broader social and developmental benefits afforded by in-person learning. In some settings, withdrawing children from school sometimes resulted in an increased risk of anxiety, depression, and self-harm. Measures introduced also led on occasions to reduced physical activity, poor eating habits, and disrupted sleep patterns. These problems would only become worse the longer schools remain closed.

Although reducing the risk of COVID in schools to zero is not possible, the risks are manageable with robust mitigation strategies, including vaccination.

The World Health Organization's guidance on operating schools during the pandemic includes several evidence-based measures to reduce COVID 19

exposure and transmission. These include personal hygiene practices, proper mask use, physical distancing, adequate ventilation, and regular cleaning and disinfection of surfaces. Prudent use of Antigen Test Kits, and clear and consistent communication with parents and children to ensure compliance in the classroom and during afterschool activities is equally important.

Recommended measures include:

Maintaining a distance of at least 1 metre from other people

- Keeping hands clean
- Wearing a mask when physical distancing isn't possible
- Covering coughs and sneezes when not wearing a mask
- Opening windows and doors to ventilate classrooms and common areas
- Getting vaccinated when it's your turn
- Remembering to stay home when you're feeling unwell



Click on the image to watch the WHO COVID-19 Technical Lead, Dr Maria van Kerkhove discuss steps schools should take to keep students and staff safe from COVID-19

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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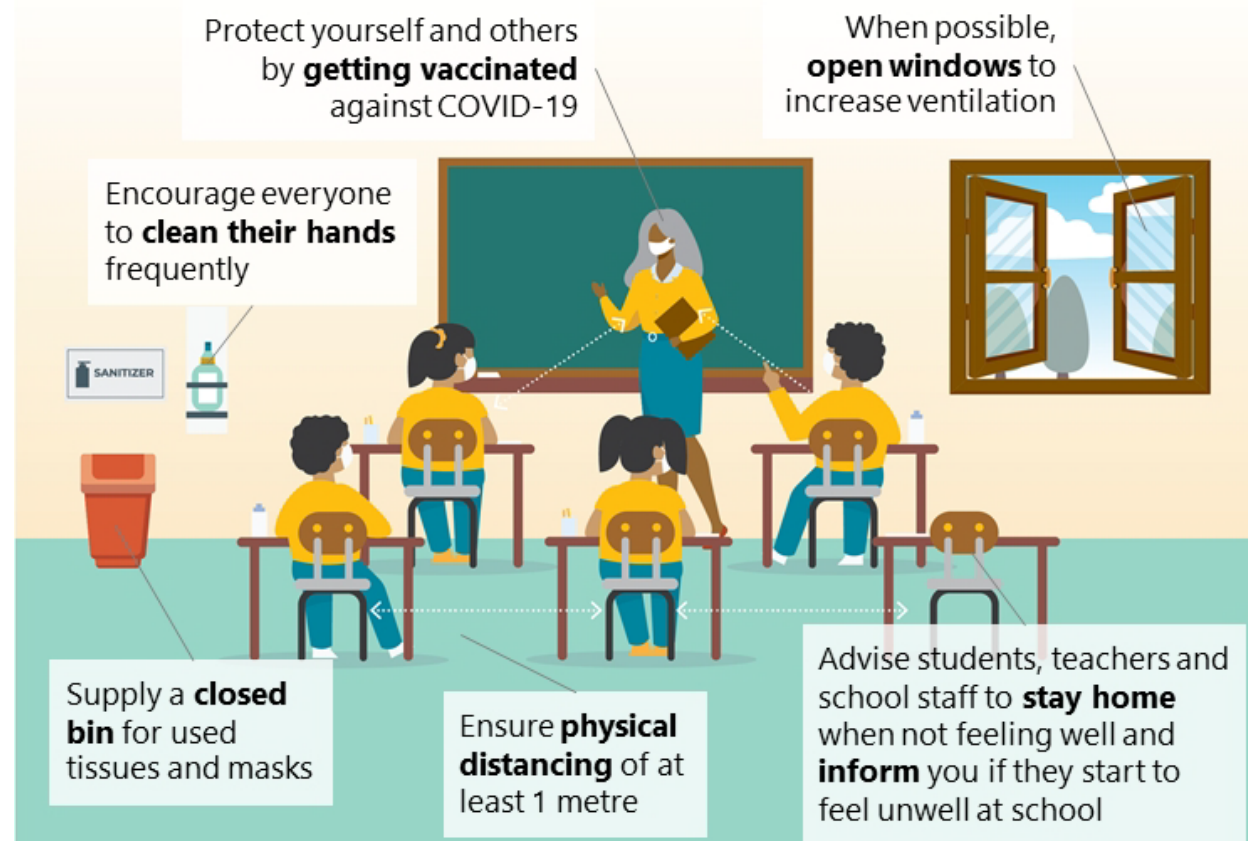


WHO Thailand



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Reducing COVID-19 risks in schools



9 November 2021

Adapted from materials developed by WHO Regional Office for Europe

#Back2School #SafeSchools #COVID19

