

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

WHO Thailand Situation Report – 26 March 2020

Data as reported by the Thai Ministry of Public Health on 26 March 2020

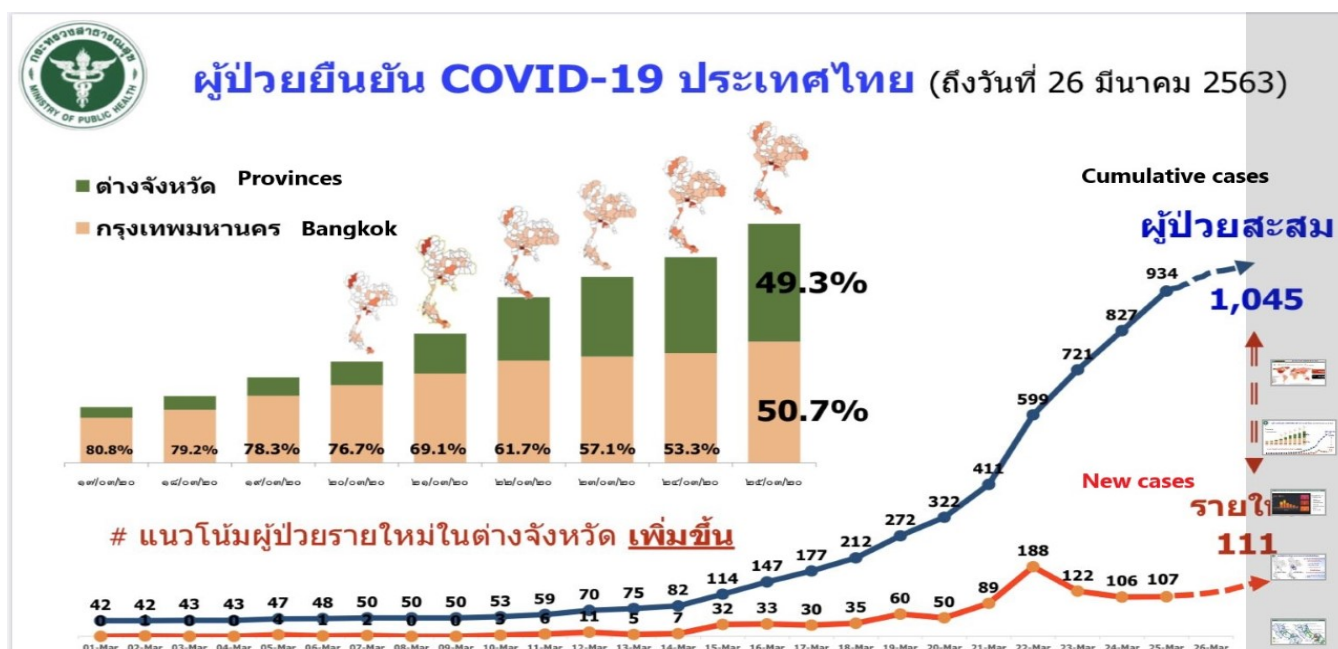
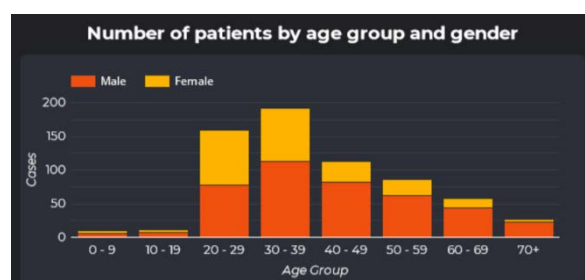
HIGHLIGHTS

- On the 26th of March 2020, 111 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand (MoPH), bringing the total number of cases to 1,045.
- Nine cases are linked to previous clusters involving pubs and Boxing stadiums. Nineteen cases are close contacts of other cases and one is related to religious events in Malaysia.
- Fifteen cases are related to foreigners and Thais returning from abroad or those working with international travelers. Three healthcare providers (9 to date) have become infected, one additional case was detected through surveillance for pneumonitis of unknown cause and 63 other cases remain under investigation.
- Of the 1,045 COVID-19 reported cases, 88 have recovered and 953 are receiving treatment. About 20% of cases did not have symptoms at the time they were tested. To date, cases in Thailand have tended to be younger and disproportionately male. This probably reflects surveillance and testing strategies. As the outbreak continues, we anticipate the age distribution to shift towards older age groups and a more equal gender balance.
- There is now a cumulative total of 14,122 Patients Under Investigation (PUIs) since the COVID-19 outbreak began, including 7,649 people being actively investigated or treated. This group includes people being treated for other conditions who are no longer suspected of having COVID-19 infection.
- Prime Minister Prayuth Chan Ocha has issued a National Emergency Decree effective until April 30th. This decree authorizes government agencies to effect or enforce specific actions necessary to reduce transmission of the pandemic virus and bring the epidemic under control. The public is requested to remain inside their homes and to strictly limit all social contacts.

THAILAND SITUATION IN NUMBERS

total and new cases in last 24 hours

1,045 confirmed (111 new)
4 deaths, 4 severe cases
953 persons receiving treatment.



RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

- Remain inside your home. Leave your home **only** for essential activities (e.g. medical care, purchase food).
- Maintain a distance of at least 1.5 meters from all other persons at all times.
- Frequently wash your hands, especially after contact with ill people or their environment. An alcohol-based hand rub is also effective
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- If unwell, wear a cloth or paper mask. Do not use N95 respirators as supplies are limited and they are critically needed for healthcare workers.
- Cover coughs & sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing and frequently wash your hands.
- Do not shake hands, embrace, share eating utensils or smoking devices with other people.
- Keep all commonly touched surfaces clean. Advice on cleaning practices and the survivability of the SARS-CoV-2 virus on surfaces & in different settings is available [here](#).

MEDIA

- WHO Thailand continues to receive media queries about the outbreak and through its [website](#) provides relevant content on a regular basis to the public and other constituencies. Media queries can be directed to sethawebsite@who.int and kanpirom@who.int
- WHO Thailand's [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts post useful information on hygiene and protection, such as when and how to use masks, as well as relevant WHO technical guidelines and other content related to the novel coronavirus situation in Thailand and globally.

WHO THAILAND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Limit transmission to citizens and health care workers
- Train and equip healthcare facilities to manage large numbers of COVID-19 patients
- Address crucial unknowns regarding clinical severity, extent of transmission, viral shedding, treatment options, and accelerate the development of diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines
- Communicate risk and event information to all communities and counter misinformation
- Minimize social and economic impact through multisectoral partnerships

PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

What Thailand is doing

- On March 27th at 2 pm Bangkok time, WHO Thailand will offer a webcast titled “Urgent Insights from Wuhan”. Two senior Chinese physicians with first-hand experience responding to the Wuhan outbreak will discuss clinical and hospital management. All doctors, administrators and healthcare workers are asked to participate. www.who.webex.com Meeting #492695827
- Thailand has strong capacities for case detection, risk assessment, case investigation, laboratory diagnosis, clinical management, infection prevention and control, and risk communication.
- With WHO support, the National Institute of Health is supporting specimen testing for other countries as requested.
- Visitors to Thailand traveling from affected areas are being screened on arrival. Possible illnesses may be reported to the Department of Disease Control using the 1422 hotline.
- The Ministry has introduced a self-reporting online tool, available in Thai, English and Chinese, which can be accessed [here](#).

What WHO is doing in Thailand

- WHO Thailand remains in frequent direct contact with the Royal Thai Government through the Ministry of Public Health, sharing information on key developments, guidelines and scientific updates
- WHO supports the wider UN response and provides relevant information and advice to staff of the UN system in Thailand.

USEFUL LINKS

- The Thailand COVID19 situation report is available in Thai and English at <http://covid19.th-stat.com/en>.
- For regular updates on WHO's response in Thailand, please visit www.who.int/thailand
- For global figures and technical advice from WHO please [visit](#).
- The **International Health Regulations (IHR)** can be viewed [here](#).
- The Department of Disease Control Hotline is 1422 (dialed from within Thailand).
- The **Thai Communicable Diseases Act** (revised in 2015) is available [here](#).
- For a comprehensive COVID-19 global case-tracker, access the **Johns Hopkins University's Centre for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE)**: in [English](#) and [Thai](#).
- For information on [Global research](#) on the novel coronavirus.
- **The Global Health Network - Coronavirus Outbreak Knowledge Hub** - a pop-up area on [The Global Health Network](#) serves as a knowledge hub and access to guidance on COVID-19.
(Note: WHO does not take responsibility for content on external websites.)

For more information or queries on WHO Thailand's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, or our work more widely, contact sehwabmaster@who.int, visit www.who.int/Thailand, and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)