

# Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## WHO Thailand Situation Report – 31 March 2020

Data as reported by the Thai Ministry of Public Health on 31 March 2020

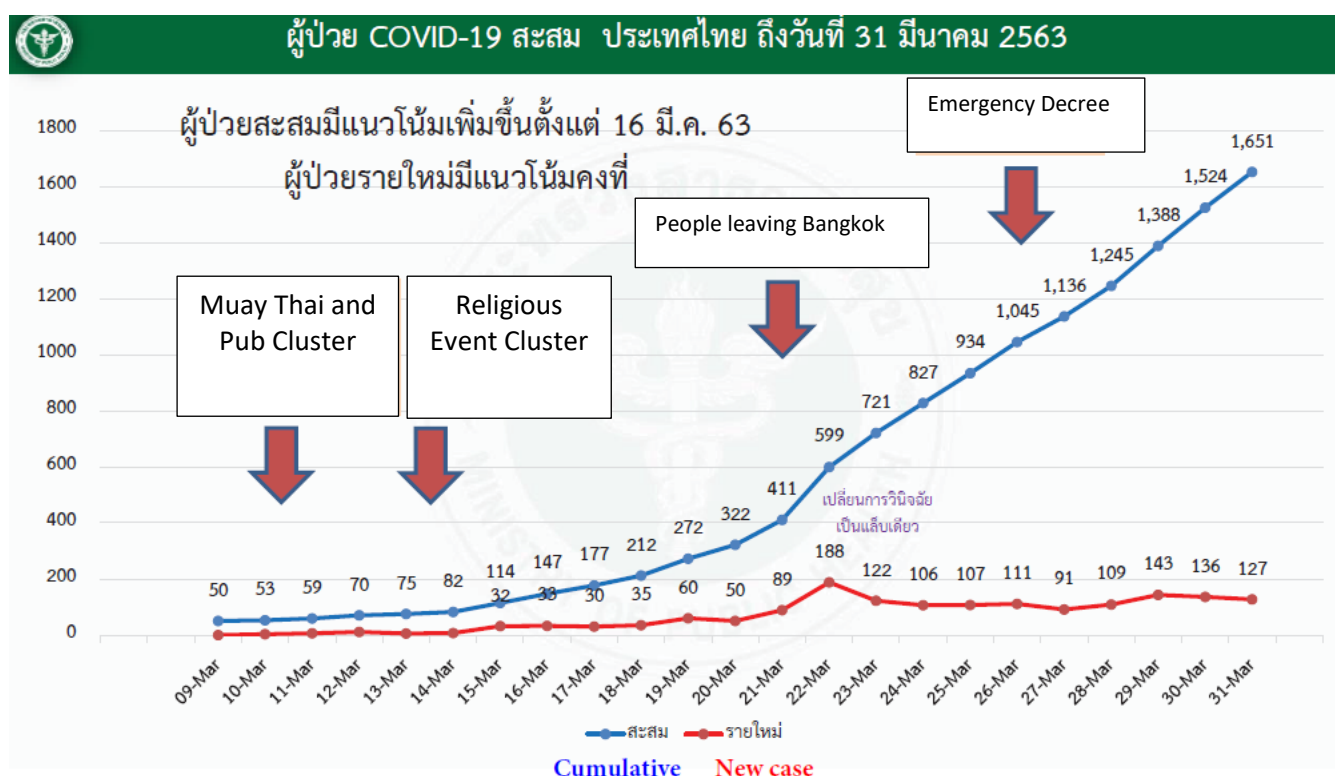
### HIGHLIGHTS

- On the 31st of March 2020, 127 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand, bringing the total number of cases to 1,651.
- Of the newly reported cases, some are still being identified in relation to previously reported clusters. A significant number of cases are still being identified in people entering the country, highlighting the need for strict compliance with quarantine requirements. A total of new 47 cases are reported to be close contacts of previously confirmed cases highlighting the need for increased adherence with preventive measures, including social distancing in all settings. Cases are also still being reported in individuals whose work brings them into contact with large numbers of people, suggesting that further restrictions are likely to be considered.
- 60 of 76 provinces have now reported laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19.

### THAILAND SITUATION

total and new cases reported in the last 24 hours

1651 confirmed (127 new)  
10 deaths (1 new)  
1,299 people hospitalized / recovering  
23 severe cases  
342 recovered



### UPDATES FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN THAILAND

- The Ministry of Public Health is establishing extra capacity for COVID-19 patients and a plan for further expanding this 'surge capacity' is under development.
- Bangkok and the municipality currently have more than 1,000 beds available as well as a reserve of 1,000 beds in other locations (hotels, etc.). It also has a reserve of 300 ventilators identified through a network of hospitals.
- At Provincial level, there is a reserve of 10,000 beds and 1,000 ventilators.

- Measures are also being taken to ensure availability of drugs, medical supplies and equipment
  - The Ministry of Public Health has allocated 1.5 million surgical masks for health facilities, including those not under the Ministry. Distribution will be enough to maintain 1 month of stocks.
  - The current stock of N95 masks held by The Ministry of Public Health may not be enough to meet current demands, and due to very high global demand, procurement is a challenge. Urgent research is therefore being undertaken on the efficiency of UVC irradiation for N95 disinfection and reuse.
  - The General Pharmaceutical Organization has procured 240,000 doses of Favipiravir from Japan (40,000 delivered on 30 Mar, 200,000 to be delivered in April) and 100,000 doses from China, to be delivered in April
- Clinical management guidelines have also been revised: some key points are
  - All laboratory-confirmed patients (with or without symptoms) will all be admitted to hospital for at least 2-7 days for treatment. Patients who have no symptoms (or whose symptoms resolve) can be transferred to other assigned places until 14th days of observation is completed.
  - After day 14 he/she can be discharged, but must practice respiratory hygiene and maintain social distancing for 1 month

## ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

- Remain inside your home. Leave your home **only** for essential activities (e.g. medical care, purchase food).
- Always try to maintain a distance of at least 1.5 meters from all other persons.
- Wash your hands frequently. An alcohol-based hand rub is also effective
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- If unwell, wear a mask. Do not use N95 respirators as supplies are limited and they are critically needed for healthcare workers.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a clean tissue. Dispose of tissues immediately and 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](#).

## WHAT WHO IS DOING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO 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 information and advice to staff of the UN system in Thailand

## MEDIA

- WHO Thailand's [website](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts, regularly provide content on all aspects of the outbreak in Thailand and around the world. Media queries can be directed to [sethawebsite@who.int](mailto:sethawebsite@who.int) and [kanpirom@who.int](mailto:kanpirom@who.int)

## 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](http://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.)