Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) WHO Thailand Situation Report – 3 April 2020



Data as reported by the Thai Ministry of Public Health on 3 April 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- On the 3rd of April 2020, 103 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand, bringing the total number of cases to 1,978.
- Of the newly reported cases, 15 cases were identified in people entering the country, highlighting the need for strict compliance with quarantine requirements. The Thai Government has announced that between now and 15 April, Thailand will take steps to reduce the number of people entering the country.
- A total of 39 of the new cases are close contacts of previously confirmed cases, highlighting the need for strict adherence with 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 social distancing restrictions may be required.
- 62 of 76 provinces have now reported laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19. Approximately half of the cases to date have occurred in Bangkok and half have been detected in other provinces.

UPDATES FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN THAILAND

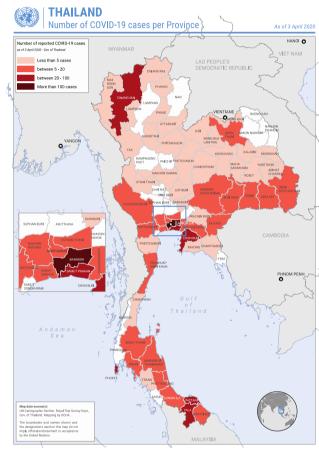
- The government has announced a nationwide curfew beginning today April 3rd. All residents are instructed to remain inside their homes between the hours of 10pm and 4am.
- The government requests that everyone wear a cloth mask when outside their home. To date, 43 million cloth masks have already been distributed.
- The government is preparing to use some hotels as field hospitals. A total of 16,000 rooms from contracted hotels will be used for the isolation and care of mildly ill patients. Persons with adequate facilities in their homes (e.g. private room, separate

bathroom) may be permitted to stay in self-quarantine. The contracted hotels will be inspected according to criteria set by the MOPH.

- Measures are being taken to ensure the 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 for healthcare workers held by the Ministry of Public Health is not enough
 to meet the estimated national demand of 60,000 masks per day. Procurement is a challenge due to very
 high global demand. Urgent research is being undertaken on the effectiveness of UVC irradiation for N95
 disinfection and reuse.

THAILAND SITUATION total and new cases reported in the last 24 hours

1,978 confirmed (103 new)
19 deaths (3 new)
1,378 people hospitalized
32 Healthcare staff (5 new)
23 severe cases
19 deaths (4 new)
581 recovered



ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC



- Face masks are a common sight on the streets of Thailand, but is is vital that they are used properly.
- Masks are <u>not</u> a substitute for proper handwashing with soap and water or with alcohol rub.
- Please do not wear N95 respirators as supplies are currently low and these are specialised masks that are needed for healthcare workers.
- In this video Dr Daniel Kertesz of WHO Thailand explains how to wear a face mask safely, and how to dispose of it properly.
- 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.
- Wear a mask when outside your home. 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 <u>website</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> accounts, regularly provide content on all aspects of the outbreak in Thailand and around the world. Media queries can be directed to <u>sethawebmaster@who.int</u> and <u>kanpirom@who.int</u>

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 <u>www.who.int/thailand</u>
- For global figures and technical advice from WHO please <u>visit</u>