

# Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Data as reported by the Thai Ministry of Public Health

21 April 2020

## WHO Thailand Situation Report

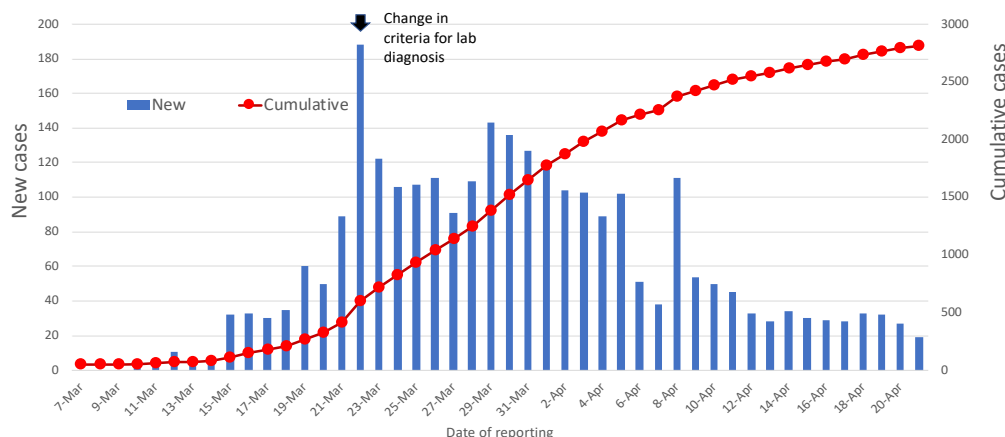


THAILAND  
SITUATION IN  
THE PAST 24  
HOURS

### HIGHLIGHTS

- On the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2020, 19 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand, bringing the total number of cases to 2,811.
- Of these, 75% (2,108) have recovered, about 1.7% (48) have died, and 23% (655) are receiving treatment.
- Only one case was identified in a person returning from outside Thailand; likely reflecting restrictions on entry.
- Ten of the new cases are close contacts of previously confirmed cases. Two cases attended crowded places.
- To date, 68 of the total 77 provinces have reported cases. 35 of these 68 provinces have not reported any new cases during the past 14 days. The three provinces that have reported the most cases are Bangkok (1,447), Phuket (193) and Nonthaburi (152). Nine provinces have not reported any cases.

New and cumulative COVID-19 cases in Thailand, by date of reporting



Source: MoPH, 21 April 2020

### UPDATE FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

At present, the Ministry of Public Health is focusing efforts on:

- Rapid contact tracing
- Active case finding in groups who have higher risks, including low-skilled labourers.
- Active case finding in areas where transmission is ongoing, such as Bangkok and Phuket
- Strengthening Infection Prevention and Control in health facilities: guidance and standards have been disseminated, including screening/triage of all patients at the point of entry, and managing groups of HCWs to minimize the risk of cross-over infections between teams.

#### Laboratory testing:

- From February until 17<sup>th</sup> April, 142,589 samples have been tested, the majority through private hospitals.
- From 4<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April, an average of 3,300 samples were tested per day and the percentage of positive cases varied between 1.41 and 3.82.
- The utility of saliva testing is being explored in order to reduce the risk of infection to healthcare staff in collecting nasopharyngeal swabs. This study is supported by the Ministry of Public Health in collaboration with Ramathibodi Hospital, Chulalongkorn Hospital and Siriraj Hospital.

### ICU bed capacity:

- As of April 17, there are currently 132 intensive care unit beds across Bangkok and vicinity. These beds would be able to provide specialized care, including mechanical ventilation.
- Currently, 82 of these beds are available/unoccupied. Current plans are to increase ICU beds in the Bangkok area to 288 by end-May.

## ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

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**People of all ages can be infected by the new coronavirus (nCoV-2019).**

Older people, and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus.

WHO advise people of all age to take steps to protect themselves from the virus, for example by following good hand hygiene and good respiratory hygiene.



**#Coronavirus**

**Does the new coronavirus affect older people, or are younger people also susceptible?**



## WHAT WHO IS DOING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THAILAND

WHO Thailand is 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, including working with key partners and the Ministry of Public Health to support migrant populations in Thailand. WHO also 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, please visit.
- For regular updates on WHO's response in Thailand, please visit.
- For global figures and technical advice from WHO, please visit.

**World Health Organization Country Office for Thailand**  
4th Fl., Permanent Secretary Bldg.3 Ministry of Public Health,  
Nonthaburi Thailand, 11000

Media queries [sethawebsite@who.int](mailto:sethawebsite@who.int) and [kanpirom@who.int](mailto:kanpirom@who.int)



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