



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

**UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)
SITUATION IN MALAYSIA**

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

23 June 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **nine (9) cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 8,186 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered and discharged well** (95.3% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

23 June 2020, 12 pm – A total of **three (3) additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **8,590 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 283 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

All the additional cases reported today are local transmissions, two (2) cases are non-Malaysians and one (1) case among Malaysians. **No imported cases** are reported today.

Details of the local transmission COVID-19 cases are as follows:

- Negeri Sembilan – 1 case: From the Pedas Cluster, non-Malaysian.
- Sabah – 2 cases: From the MDR Cluster, involving 1 Malaysian and 1 non-Malaysian. They are family members of Case 8,506.

Currently, three (3) confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICUs), and no patient is on ventilation support.

Fortunately, **no additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **121 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.41% of total cumulative cases).

The Church Gathering Cluster in Kuching Ends

MOH is pleased to announce the end of the Church Gathering Cluster in Kuching, Sarawak. This cluster is one of the earlier clusters detected at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in Malaysia, on 15 March 2020. As of 23 June 2020, a total of 2,751 individuals were screened, with 191 confirmed COVID-19 cases; of these 12 cases were treated in ICUs and there were three (3) deaths in this cluster:

- Death #2; Case 358
- Death #37; Case 2,471
- Death #67; Case 2,864

This cluster had five generations of infection in various areas in Sarawak. Now, the cluster has ended. MOH would like to thank the Sarawak Disaster Management Committee and all the staff who have provided their services in all activities related to this cluster.

Reopening of the School Session

As announced by the Senior Minister of Education at his press conference on 10 June 2020, the schooling session will begin on 24 June 2020 in stages. To begin with, it only involves students of public examination classes namely *Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM)*, *Sijil Vokasional Malaysia (SVM)*, *Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM)*, *Sijil Tinggi Agama Malaysia (STAM)* and equivalent international examinations.

Following the enforcement of the Movement Control Order (MCO), all educational institutions have been closed for more than three months. This is an important step to ensure there is no disease transmission

among students and school staff. Currently, Malaysia is entering the recovery phase where the additional COVID-19 cases reported daily is in the one- to two-digit range. In this recovery phase, the reopening of various sectors is underway including the reopening of the education sector.

As of 23 June 2020, out of the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Malaysia, 1,712 cases were among those aged 18 years and under (i.e. 19.9%). Of these, 346 cases are in the age range of 16 to 18 years. However, no deaths or ICU cases were reported in this age group. This indicates that COVID-19 infection in this age group are less serious and have a good recovery rate.

The school opening is subject to the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and guidelines issued. The guidelines have been developed through the cooperation of various parties taking into account the safety and health of students and school staff.

Some of the precautionary measures in the guidelines are:

1. Temperature check at the school entrance will be conducted for all students, staff and individuals dealing with the school. Individuals with a body temperature above 37.5°C or symptomatic will not be allowed to enter the school premise.
2. Students will be reminded to always maintain good personal hygiene, especially regular handwashing practices at all times.
3. Social distancing is practiced in the classroom, where tables are arranged at least one meter away from others. The maximum capacity for a classroom does not exceed 20 students; while outside of the class, the capacity depends on the size of the space.
4. Recess time will be in stages and students must queue keeping to the distancing markers when purchasing food at the canteens.
5. Activities outside of the classroom, such as sports, face-to-face co-curriculum activities and school assemblies are still prohibited.

Therefore, students returning to school can do so in confidence without any doubt and anxiety. Parents are also reminded to ensure that their children comply with all guidelines issued. This includes practising good personal hygiene and safe social distancing at all times in and out of school.

The cooperation of parents, students and school staff is crucial to ensure that there is no transmission of COVID-19 infection in schools.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

The general public is reminded to always follow the health advisories repeatedly mentioned by the MOH, that includes:

- Avoid the **3Cs**: **C**rowded places; **C**onfined spaces; and **C**lose conversations
- Practice the **3Ws**: **W**ash hands frequently with water and soap; **W**earing facemasks are strongly encouraged in public areas or if symptomatic; **W**arn self and others for the following, in line with MOH's advisories:
 - Avoid shaking hands or touching others
 - Practice good coughing and sneezing etiquette
 - Seek early treatment if symptomatic
 - Stay at home and avoid from visiting others
 - Regularly clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces in common areas

In addition to the SOPs, continue to adhere to **THiS**:

- **T**: Terms set under the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO)
- **Hi**: High-risk groups such as children, infants, older adults and the disabled must be protected, and if unwell with symptoms, to seek early treatment
- **S**: Safe social distancing is practiced at all times, of at least 1 metre away from others

MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation, both in the country as well as internationally, based on available information from the World Health Organization (WHO). The public will be continuously updated on the latest information. In addition, MOH will ensure that appropriate preventive and control measures are continuously implemented.

Thank you.

Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah
Director General of Health Malaysia

23 June 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 23 June 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	96
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	0	258
Selangor	0	2,027
Negeri Sembilan	1	1,015
Melaka	0	256
Johor	0	688
Pahang	0	365
Terengganu	0	111
Kelantan	0	156
Sabah	2	366
Sarawak	0	569
WP Kuala Lumpur	0	2,430
WP Putrajaya	0	97
WP Labuan	0	17
Total	3 (0)	8,590

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case