



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

**UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)
SITUATION IN MALAYSIA
21 September 2020**

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **40 cases** have fully recovered and discharged today. **Cumulatively, 9,395 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been discharged** (91.4% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

21 September 2020, 12 pm – a total of **57 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **10,276 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 751 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 57 additional cases reported today, six (6) are imported cases who were **infected overseas**, involving one (1) Malaysian and five (5) non-Malaysians. They were travellers from the following countries:

- **Indonesia – 3 cases**, illegal migrants reported in Selangor
- **United Kingdom – 1 case** reported in Kuala Lumpur
- **Pakistan – 1 case** reported in Kuala Lumpur
- **Zambia – 1 case** reported in Kuala Lumpur

Of the 51 **local transmission** cases reported today, 45 cases are **Malaysians** and six (6) cases are **non-Malaysians**. The details of the local transmission COVID-19 cases are as follows:

- **Sabah: 49 cases**
 - 14 cases from the Pulau Cluster, involving 13 Malaysians and 1 non-Malaysian.
 - 12 cases from the Selamat Cluster, involving 11 Malaysians and 1 non-Malaysian.
 - 5 cases from the Benteng LD Cluster, involving 3 Malaysians and 2 non-Malaysians.
 - 5 cases from the Kuarters Cluster, a new cluster in Tongod, Sabah, all Malaysians.
 - 2 cases from Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) screening in Queen Elizabeth Hospital, both Malaysians.
 - 2 cases from symptomatic screening in Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Lahad Datu Hospital, both Malaysians.
 - 2 cases from screening of detainees at the prison in Beaufort District Police HQ, both Malaysians.
 - 2 cases from screening of trainees at a rehabilitation centre, both Malaysians.
 - 1 case from pre-surgery screening in the Likas Women and Children's Hospital, a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from Influenza-like Illness (ILI) screening in Tawau Health Clinic, a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from screening of close contacts to Case 9,390, a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from screening of healthcare workers in Lahad Datu Hospital, a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from referral screening to Tawau Hospital, involving a non-Malaysian.
- **Kedah: 1 case** from the Sungai Cluster, a Malaysian.
- **Selangor: 1 case** from pre-surgery screening in Kuala Lumpur Hospital, involving a non-Malaysian.

MOH would like to inform that tracing of close contacts is currently ongoing for **all confirmed COVID-19 cases**. All identified close contacts will be **quarantined** under the Home Surveillance and Observation Order (HSO) for **14 days** and will **undergo COVID-19 screening tests** as stipulated in the Order.

Currently, **nine (9) confirmed COVID-19 cases** are receiving treatment in the intensive care units (ICUs), with **two (2) patients on ventilation support**.

No additional COVID-19 death was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there remains **130 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.26% of total cumulative cases).

A New Cluster in Sabah: The Kuarters Cluster

MOH would like to inform that a new cluster has been reported in Tongod, Sandakan, Sabah. This cluster was identified as a result of screening conducted around the Tongod District following the detection of a healthcare worker (HCW) who tested positive for COVID-19 using RTK Antigen on 4 September 2020, as part of the hospital referral screening. However, the COVID-19 confirmatory test (i.e. rt-PCR) was found to be negative.

Screening around the Tongod District that started on 6 September 2020 had involved the local community, including the HCWs of the Tongod Health Clinic. Five (5) confirmed COVID-19 cases have been detected so far. All confirmed cases (i.e. Cases 10,253 to 10,257) in this cluster are Malaysians. They were asymptomatic and have been admitted into the Duchess of Kent Hospital, Sandakan for treatment.

As of 21 September 2020, 12 pm, a total of 117 individuals have been screened. The screening results are as follows:

- Five (5) confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 112 individuals awaiting results

Infection prevention measures including disinfection and cleaning have been carried out at the Tongod Health Clinic. All patients with appointments at the clinic have been referred to the nearby health clinics. The cause of the infection is still under investigation. The health services at the Tongod Health Clinic will resume after the disinfection and cleaning are completed.

Current Status of the Three Clusters in Sabah and One Cluster in Kedah

1. The Pulau Cluster

14 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases are reported for this cluster today. Cumulatively, there are now **29 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in this cluster. As of 21 September 2020, 12 pm, a total of 451 individuals have been screened in this cluster. The breakdown of screening by districts involved is as follows:

a) Kunak (371 individuals screened):

- 26 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**14 additional cases** reported today)
- 155 individuals tested negative
- 190 individuals awaiting results

b) Semporna (80 screened)

- Three (3) individuals tested negative
- 77 individual awaiting result

Of the 29 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 26 are Malaysians and three (3) are Filipino nationals.

2. The Selamat Cluster

12 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases are reported for this cluster today. Cumulatively, there are now **19 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in this cluster. As of 21 September 2020, 12 pm, a total of 215 individuals have been screened in this cluster. The breakdown of screening is as follows:

- 19 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**12 additional cases** reported today)
- 196 individuals awaiting results

Of the 19 confirmed COVID-19 cases in this cluster, 18 are Malaysians and one (1) a non-Malaysian.

3. The Benteng LD Cluster

Five (5) additional confirmed COVID-19 cases are reported for this cluster today. Cumulatively, there are now **583 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in this cluster. As of 21 September 2020, 12 pm, a total of 9,610 individuals have been screened in this cluster. The breakdown of screening by districts involved is as follows:

a) Tawau (7,134 individuals screened):

- 426 confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 5,109 individuals tested negative
- 1,599 individuals awaiting results

b) Lahad Datu (2,475 individuals screened):

- 156 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**5 additional cases** reported today)
- 1,306 individuals tested negative
- 1,013 individuals awaiting results

c) Sandakan: One (1) confirmed COVID-19 case; no additional screening done.

From the total number of screenings for this cluster, the breakdown is as follows:

- 1,520 prisoners and detainees, of which 475 are confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 1,159 staff from the Lahad Datu District Police QH and Tawau Prison, of which 24 are confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 1,394 family members of staff, prisoners and detainees, of which 26 are confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 1,384 personnel from other government agencies, none tested positive for COVID-19
- 4,153 social close contacts, of which 58 are confirmed COVID-19 cases

Of the cumulative 583 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 290 cases are among Malaysians while 293 cases were among non-Malaysians from:

- Philippines – 191 cases
- Indonesia – 101 cases

The number of cases will be constantly updated and the categories for confirmed cases may change depending on the latest information from field investigations.

4. The Sungai Cluster

One (1) additional confirmed COVID-19 case is reported for this cluster today. Cumulatively, there are now **74 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in this cluster. As of 21 September 2020, 12 pm, a total of 24,699 individuals have been screened. The breakdown of screening by states involved is as follows:

a) Kedah (24,510 individuals screened):

- 73 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**1 additional case** reported today)
- 24,205 individuals tested negative
- 232 individuals awaiting results

b) Pulau Pinang (142 screened):

- 142 individuals tested negative

c) Perlis (47 screened):

- One (1) confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 43 individuals tested negative
- 3 individuals awaiting results

All 74 confirmed COVID-19 cases in this cluster are Malaysians.

Screening of close contacts and active case detection for these clusters are still ongoing. The latest status of these clusters will be informed from time to time.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public to continue to comply to the recommendations and health advisories that are often emphasised. These advisories must be incorporated as the new normal in our daily life, including:

- **Avoid the 3Cs:** Avoid **C**rowded places; **C**onfined spaces; and **C**lose conversations.
- **Practice the 3Ws:** **W**ash hands frequently with water and soap; **W**earing facemasks is now mandatory in public areas (starting from 1 August 2020 as directed by the National Security Council) or highly recommended if symptomatic; **W**arn self and others for the following, in line with MOH's advisories:
 - Avoid shaking hands or touching others, including bumping parts of the body in lieu of shaking hands
 - 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** as the new normal:

- **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 physical 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.

Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah
Director General of Health Malaysia

21 September 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 21 September 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
WP Kuala Lumpur	3 (3)	2,636
Selangor	4 (3)	2,214
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,044
Sabah	49	1,129
Johor	0	752
Sarawak	0	701
Pahang	0	371
Kedah	1	325
Perak	0	269
Melaka	0	262
Kelantan	0	160
Pulau Pinang	0	142
Terengganu	0	114
WP Putrajaya	0	99
Perlis	0	33
WP Labuan	0	25
Total	57 (6)	10,276

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case