



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

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

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) is pleased to inform that today Malaysia reported **671 COVID-19 recovery cases**. Therefore, **cumulatively, 16,555 confirmed COVID-19 cases** have been discharged (64.3% of total cumulative cases). The breakdown of cases that have recovered by state is as follows:

- Sabah (449 cases)
- Selangor (83 cases)
- Pulau Pinang (68 cases)
- Perak (61 cases)
- Negeri Sembilan (3 cases)
- Sarawak (2 cases)
- Kedah (2 cases)
- Melaka (1 case)
- Terengganu (1 case)
- Pahang (1 case)

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

Today, Sabah continues to report the highest number of cases at 889 cases (72.4%). This is the highest number reported by Sabah so far. Although this number is high, at present there are still beds available in hospitals and the QCOVID-19 Quarantine and Low Risk Treatment Centres

(PKRC) to accommodate the number of confirmed cases. This high number is also the result of intensive active case detection carried out in Sabah.

Meanwhile, the states in the Klang Valley reported an additional 95 cases (7.7% of total cases). Of the 95 additional cases, 29 cases (30.5%) are from existing and new clusters. These states as well as Sabah have already been placed under the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO).

A total of 502 cases (41% of total cases) today are prisoners and detainees from the Penjara Kepayan Cluster, Penjara Seberang Perai Cluster, Penjara Reman Cluster and the Tembok Cluster. These cases are isolated in prisons.

Two (2) cases were returnees from Sabah, making the number of cases reported to have a history of travel to Sabah since 20 September 2020 is 468 cases.

As of 24 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of **1,228 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are **25,742 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are currently **8,966 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 1,228 additional cases reported today, Kuala Lumpur reported **11 imported cases** who were **infected overseas**. These cases involved three (3) Malaysians and eight (8) non-Malaysians who were travellers from:

- Singapore (5 cases)
- Indonesia (3 cases)
- China (2 cases)
- United Arab Emirates (1 case)

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

- **Sabah: 889 cases**
 - 500 cases from existing active clusters, including 8 cases from new clusters i.e. **Mesra Cluster** and **Megah Cluster**.
 - 253 cases from screening of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.
 - 136 cases from other COVID-19 screenings.
- **Negeri Sembilan: 96 cases** from existing active clusters, including 54 cases from a new cluster i.e. **Kaya Cluster**.
- **Selangor: 76 cases**
 - 27 cases from existing active clusters, including 1 case from a new cluster i.e. **Bah Kayu Cluster**.
 - 36 cases from screening of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.
 - 13 cases from other COVID-19 screenings.
- **Kedah: 76 cases**
 - 74 cases from existing active clusters.
 - 2 cases from screening of returnees from high-risk areas (Sabah).
- **Pulau Pinang: 23 cases**
 - 19 cases from existing active clusters.
 - 3 cases from screening of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.
 - 1 case from other COVID-19 screenings.
- **WP Labuan: 21 cases**
 - 20 cases from existing active clusters.
 - 1 case from screening of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.

- **Perak: 10 cases**
 - 5 cases from existing active clusters.
 - 5 cases from other COVID-19 screenings.
- **Sarawak: 8 cases**
 - 3 cases from the **Baki Cluster**, a new cluster.
 - 3 cases from screening of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.
 - 2 cases from other COVID-19 screenings.
- **Kuala Lumpur: 8 cases**
 - 4 cases from screening of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.
 - 2 cases from existing active clusters.
 - 2 cases from other COVID-19 screenings.
- **Johor: 7 cases**
 - 5 cases from the **Kempas Cluster**, a new cluster.
 - 1 case from screening of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.
 - 1 case from other COVID-19 screenings.
- **Melaka: 3 cases**
 - 2 cases from screening of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.
 - 1 case from other COVID-19 screenings.

Currently, **92 confirmed COVID-19 cases** are receiving treatment in the intensive care units (ICUs), with **31 patients on ventilation support**.

Regretfully, seven (7) additional COVID-19 deaths were reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **221 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (0.9% of total cumulative cases).

Summary of the deaths reported today is shown in the following table:

| Death # | Case | State | Sex | Age (years) | Hospital | Medical History |
|---------|--------|-------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---|
| 215 | 13,507 | Sabah | Male (M'sian) | 88 | Tuaran | Hypertension |
| 216 | 14,008 | Sabah | Male (M'sian) | 60 | Queen Elizabeth | Hypertension, asthma & gout |
| 217 | 13,698 | Sabah | Male (M'sian) | 62 | Tawau | Diabetes |
| 218 | 24,324 | Sabah | Male (M'sian) | 75 | Duchess of Kent | Hypertension |
| 219 | 24,323 | Sabah | Male (M'sian) | 72 | Duchess of Kent | Dyslipidaemia, Parkinson's disease & cataracts |
| 220 | 25,403 | Sabah | Male (M'sian) | 47 | Lahad Datu | Hypertension & chronic kidney disease |
| 221 | 25,718 | Perak | Male (M'sian) | 63 | Penang | Diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, chronic kidney disease & hydrocephalus |

MOH extends its condolences to all their family members.

Six (6) New Clusters Reported Today

MOH would like to inform that there are **six (6) new clusters** have been identified today.

1. The Mesra Cluster

This new cluster involves the Sandakan district, Sabah. The index case for this cluster (Case 13,755) was detected positive for COVID-19 from symptomatic screening on 7 October 2020 and admitted into the Duchess of Kent Hospital, Sandakan. Screening of close contacts has identified 21 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases.

As of 24 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of 116 individuals have been screened, of which:

- 22 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**7 additional cases**)
- 2 individuals tested negative
- 92 individuals awaiting results

2. The Megah Cluster

This new cluster involves the Sandakan district, Sabah. The index case for this cluster (Case 13,706) was detected positive for COVID-19 from symptomatic screening on 5 October 2020 and admitted into the Duchess of Kent Hospital. Screening of close contacts has identified 14 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases.

As of 24 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of 64 individuals have been screened, of which:

- 15 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**1 additional case**)
- 12 individuals tested negative
- 37 individuals awaiting results

3. The Kaya Cluster

This new cluster involves the Seremban district in Negeri Sembilan and WP Putrajaya. The cases for this cluster were detected from a workplace screening on 24 October 2020 and admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital and Tuanku Jaafar Hospital, Seremban.

As of 24 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of 63 individuals have been screened, of which:

- 55 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**54 additional cases**)
- 6 individuals tested negative
- 2 individuals awaiting result

4. The Bah Kayu Cluster

This new cluster involves the Gombak district in Selangor and the Titiwangsa district in Kuala Lumpur. The index case for this cluster (Case 17,371) was detected positive for COVID-19 from screening of returnees from high-risk areas (Sabah) on 13 October 2020 and admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital. Screening of close contacts has identified 16 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases.

As of 24 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of 628 individuals have been screened, of which:

- 17 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**1 additional case**)
- 591 individuals tested negative
- 20 individuals awaiting results

5. The Baki Cluster

This new cluster involves the Kuching district, Sarawak. The index case for this cluster (Case 20,431) was detected positive for COVID-19 from symptomatic screening on 17 October 2020 and admitted into Sarawak General Hospital. Screening of close contacts has identified four (4) additional confirmed COVID-19 cases.

As of 24 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of 68 individuals have been screened, of which:

- Five (5) confirmed COVID-19 cases (**3 additional cases**)
- 34 individuals tested negative
- 29 individuals awaiting results

6. The Kempas Cluster

This new cluster involves the Johor Bahru and Kulai districts in Johor. The index case for this cluster (Case 24,447) was detected positive for COVID-19 from symptomatic screening on 22 October 2020 and admitted into the Enche' Besar Hajjah Khalsom Hospital, Kluang. Screening of close contacts has identified seven (7) additional confirmed COVID-19 cases.

As of 24 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of 206 individuals have been screened, of which:

- Eight (8) confirmed COVID-19 cases (**5 additional cases**)
- 28 individuals tested negative
- 170 individuals awaiting results

Residents of States in the Klang Valley Must Comply with the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO)

With the increase of 76 confirmed cases today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Selangor is now 3,880 cases. Compared to 11 October 2020, Selangor reported 26 cases then (cumulatively 2,601 cases). The increase of 1,279 cases that was reported in several districts resulted in the number of Red districts in Selangor to increase from two (2) districts to six (6) districts within 14 days. The largest increases were in the districts of Hulu Langat (168 cases), Klang (115 cases) and Gombak (93 cases).

The increase in local transmission cases in Selangor can be observed from 2 October 2020 and has increased consistently until today. Examining the chronology of the COVID-19 transmission in Selangor during this third wave, the first cluster reported was the Jalan Apas Cluster, on 28 September 2020, that involved individuals returning from Sabah. So far, 196 confirmed COVID-19 cases with a history of travel to Sabah have been detected in Selangor; and a total of nine (9) clusters have been detected in Selangor related to returnees from Sabah. The latest cluster identified today is the Bah Kayu Cluster.

However, local transmissions are still occurring in Selangor and every day, as more additional cases and new local clusters are detected (35 active clusters). A similar situation was seen in Kedah before, starting from the imported case cluster i.e. the PUI Sivagangga Cluster, that was followed by more local transmission clusters in Kedah. Recently, from 11 October 2020, the local transmission in Selangor began to result in workplace-related clusters, whereby so far six (6) clusters have been detected in Selangor.

Therefore, apart from continuing the COVID-19 screening at all International and Domestic Ports of Entry for visitors returning from Sabah, the Government has also decided to implement the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO) in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and WP Putrajaya, effective from 14 October 2020. In addition, the Government has also decided that employees at the management and supervision level of the public and industrial sectors in the CMCO areas are allowed to work from home, effective from 22 October 2020 until the end of the CMCO. The main objective is for more people to remain at home, reduce community movements, and reduce the transmission of the COVID-19 virus in the CMCO areas. Whether or not this measure will succeed depends on the compliance and cooperation of all of us.

The Government is appealing to all employers and employees to comply by this ruling as it will help reduce the movement of people around the CMCO areas and also reduce the risk of transmission in the workplace. Compliance of the community in cultivating this new normal and practices, incorporating the Standard Practice Procedures (SOPs), is very important to help break the chain of transmission of the COVID-19 infection.

Status of Appointment of Contract of Service for Healthcare Workers to Support Healthcare Services during COVID-19

This morning, the Public Service Commission (*Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Awam* or SPA) has announced the approval for the appointment of a total of **1,223 new candidates** namely **624** Nurses Grade U29, **336** Assistant Medical Officers Grade U29, **213** Assistant Environmental Health Officers Grade U29 and **50** Medical Laboratory Technicians Grade U29. In line with the approval, MOH will issue a letter of offer for the contract appointment to all successful candidates this Monday, 26 October 2020, with the date of reporting for duty on Wednesday 28 October 2020.

Of the total 624 Grade U29 Nurses approved, 317 Grade U29 Nurses will be placed in Sabah, while another 18 will be placed in WP Labuan. Most

of them are locals to the states. It is hoped that with the addition of these healthcare workers, MOH will be able to further strengthen the delivery of healthcare services in the relevant states, especially in Sabah and WP Labuan.

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

24 October 2020 @ 5.30 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 24 October 2020, 12 pm)

| State | No. of New Cases * | Cumulative |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Sabah | 889 | 11,285 |
| Selangor | 76 | 3,880 |
| WP Kuala Lumpur | 19 (11) | 2,939 |
| Kedah | 76 | 2,044 |
| Negeri Sembilan | 96 | 1,290 |
| Johor | 7 | 852 |
| Sarawak | 8 | 780 |
| Pulau Pinang | 23 | 754 |
| Perak | 10 | 459 |
| Pahang | 0 | 392 |
| Melaka | 3 | 308 |
| WP Labuan | 21 | 238 |
| Kelantan | 0 | 178 |
| Terengganu | 0 | 166 |
| WP Putrajaya | 0 | 139 |
| Perlis | 0 | 38 |
| Total | 1,228 (11) | 25,742 |

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 cases

Current Status of Active Clusters with Additional Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Reported Today
(24 October 2020)

| Cluster | States | Districts | Additional cases | Total cases | Total screened | Active cases (ICU) | Total recovered | Total deaths |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---|------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Penjara Kepyayan | Sabah | Kota Kinabalu | 434 | 1,156 | 2,160 | 1153 (0) | 3 | 0 |
| 2. Tembok | Kedah, Perak | Kota Setar, Baling, Kuala Muda, Sungai Petani, Kubang Pasu, Padang Terap, Larut Matang & Selama | 75 | 1,662 | 7,560 | 729 (4) | 930 | 3 |
| 3. Sofi | Negeri Sembilan | Seremban | 41 | 102 | 173 | 102 (0) | 0 | 0 |
| 4. Inai | Sabah | Kudat | 33 | 48 | 106 | 48 (0) | 0 | 0 |
| 5. Saguking | WP Labuan | Labuan | 19 | 90 | 1,663 | 89 (0) | 0 | 1 |
| 6. Tujuh Serangkai | Sabah | Tuaran | 9 | 367 | 2,871 | 78 (0) | 288 | 1 |
| 7. Penjara Seberang Perai | Pulau Pinang | Seberang Perai Selatan | 9 | 104 | 2,895 | 77 (2) | 27 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|---|---|---|-----|-------|---------|-----|---|
| 8. | Auto | Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, WP Kuala Lumpur & Putrajaya | Petaling, Klang, Kuala Langat, Sepang, Gombak, Hulu Langat, Seremban, Titiwangsa, Putrajaya | 9 | 97 | 727 | 96 (0) | 1 | 0 |
| 9. | Penjara Reman | Pulau Pinang | Timur Laut | 8 | 454 | 2,964 | 188 (0) | 265 | 1 |
| 10. | Utama | Selangor, Melaka, WP Kuala Lumpur | Gombak, Hulu Langat, Petaling, Alor Gajah, Lembah Pantai, Titiwangsa | 7 | 214 | 887 | 55 (0) | 159 | 0 |
| 11. | Highway | Sabah | Kota Belud | 7 | 46 | 300 | 46 (0) | 0 | 0 |
| 12. | Cahaya | Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, WP Kuala Lumpur | Petaling, Tampin, Titiwangsa, Lembah Pantai | 4 | 31 | 197 | 31 (1) | 0 | 0 |
| 13. | Ramai- Ramai | Sabah | Sandakan | 3 | 213 | 755 | 109 (1) | 104 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|------------|--|---|---|----|-------|--------|----|---|
| 14. | Kasih | Sabah | Lahad Datu, Kota Kinabalu | 3 | 69 | 1,871 | 29 (0) | 40 | 0 |
| 15. | Hentian | Selangor | Hulu Langat | 3 | 62 | 128 | 60 (0) | 2 | 0 |
| 16. | Lekir | Perak | Manjung | 3 | 18 | 221 | 17 (0) | 1 | 0 |
| 17. | Alma | Pulau Pinang | Seberang Perai Tengah, Seberang Perai Selatan, Seberang Perai Utara | 2 | 28 | 356 | 28 (0) | 0 | 0 |
| 18. | Tempayan | Sabah | Penampang, Kota Kinabalu | 2 | 22 | 243 | 7 (0) | 15 | 0 |
| 19. | Menara | Selangor, WP Kuala Lumpur & Putrajaya, Perak, Terengganu, Melaka | Hulu Langat, Petaling, Gombak, Klang, Sepang, Cheras, Titiwangsa, Lembah Pantai, Putrajaya, Larut Matang & Selama, Kuala Nerus, Melaka Tengah | 1 | 75 | 477 | 64 (0) | 11 | 0 |
| 20. | Sungei Way | Selangor, WP Kuala Lumpur, Pulau Pinang | Petaling, Klang, Gombak, Hulu Langat, Kuala Langat, | 1 | 58 | 343 | 30 (0) | 28 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---|---|---|----|-----|--------|----|---|
| | | | Titiwangsa, Lembah Pantai, Cheras, Timur Laut, Seberang Perai Utara | | | | | | |
| 21. | Tanamera | Sabah | Tawau | 1 | 57 | 101 | 36 (0) | 21 | 0 |
| 22. | Buntar | Kedah, Perak, WP Kuala Lumpur & Putrajaya, Johor, Selangor, Pulau Pinang | Kuala Muda, Kerian, Kinta, Kepong, Putrajaya, Batu Pahat, Johor Bahru, Petaling, Sepang, Seberang Perai Selatan | 1 | 47 | 691 | 45 (0) | 2 | 0 |
| 23. | Keladi | Selangor | Klang | 1 | 32 | 226 | 26 (0) | 6 | 0 |
| 24. | Bah Kenangan | Selangor | Hulu Langat | 1 | 27 | 44 | 12 (0) | 15 | 0 |
| 25. | Long | Selangor, WP Kuala Lumpur | Hulu Langat, Titiwangsa, Lembah Pantai, Kepong | 1 | 22 | 453 | 22 (0) | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|----|-----|--------|---|---|
| 26. | Jambu | Selangor, Melaka, Pulau Pinang | Hulu Langat, Alor Gajah, Timur Laut | 1 | 17 | 159 | 17 (0) | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | Bah Kota | Selangor, Negeri Sembilan | Sepang, Petaling, Seremban | 1 | 11 | 181 | 10 (0) | 1 | 0 |
| 28. | Bina Labuan | WP Labuan | Labuan | 1 | 7 | 151 | 6 (0) | 0 | 1 |