



Brunei Darussalam

Situation summary

- One new case was reported in Brunei Darussalam in the past seven days (on 3 September), bringing the total number of COVID-19 cases to 145 cases including three deaths.
- The latest case is an imported case:
 - Case #145 is a 33-year-old male who returned from Indonesia transiting via Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia and was tested upon arrival in Brunei Darussalam on 28 August. It is unclear where the case contracted COVID-19. The case underwent a swab test as part of the screening process for all travellers into the country. The case presented with no symptoms and was taken to the National Isolation Centre upon arrival, limiting the risk of further community exposure.
 - As of 3 September, 32 close contacts of the case have been quarantined and have been tested for COVID-19. Of those, 26 have tested negative; results are pending for the rest.
- Only three active cases remain in hospital.
- No new COVID-19-associated deaths were reported in the past seven days.

Upcoming events and priorities

- Visit the [Ministry of Health Brunei Darussalam](#) website for information.
- Brunei Darussalam is set to gradually reopen its international borders for essential travel, lifting a travel ban that was instated on 16 March. A recent agreement with Singapore marks the country's first steps to re-establishing international travel. Furthermore, foreign nationals will be allowed entry into the country from 15 September, subject to conditions.

National transmission assessment

At the national level, Brunei Darussalam remains in **Stage 1, imported cases**. On 3 September, one imported case was reported of a 33-year-old male travelling from Indonesia. This is currently Brunei's third active case. The other active cases are previously imported cases from the Middle East and India. As imported cases are placed in government-maintained isolation facilities upon arrival as part of the routine quarantine protocol for travellers, the risk of wider community transmission is low. There have been no local transmissions reported despite the easing of non-pharmaceutical interventions since 16 May.

Epi Update COVID-19 <i>Data reported for epi week ending 6 September 2020 (% difference compared to the previous 7 days)</i>	Tests 1551 Tests in the past 7 days (-30.2%)	Cases 1 New cases in the past 7 days (-)	Deaths 0 Deaths in the past 7 days (-)	ICU 0% ICU utilization rate in the past 7 days (-)
	53 292 Cumulative tests 0.27% Positivity rate	145 Cumulative cases	3 Cumulative deaths 2.1% Case fatality rate	442 ICU beds for COVID-19 patients

Imported cases and clusters

1 (100%)

Imported cases in the past 7 days

1 (100%)

Cases in the past 7 days with no link

0

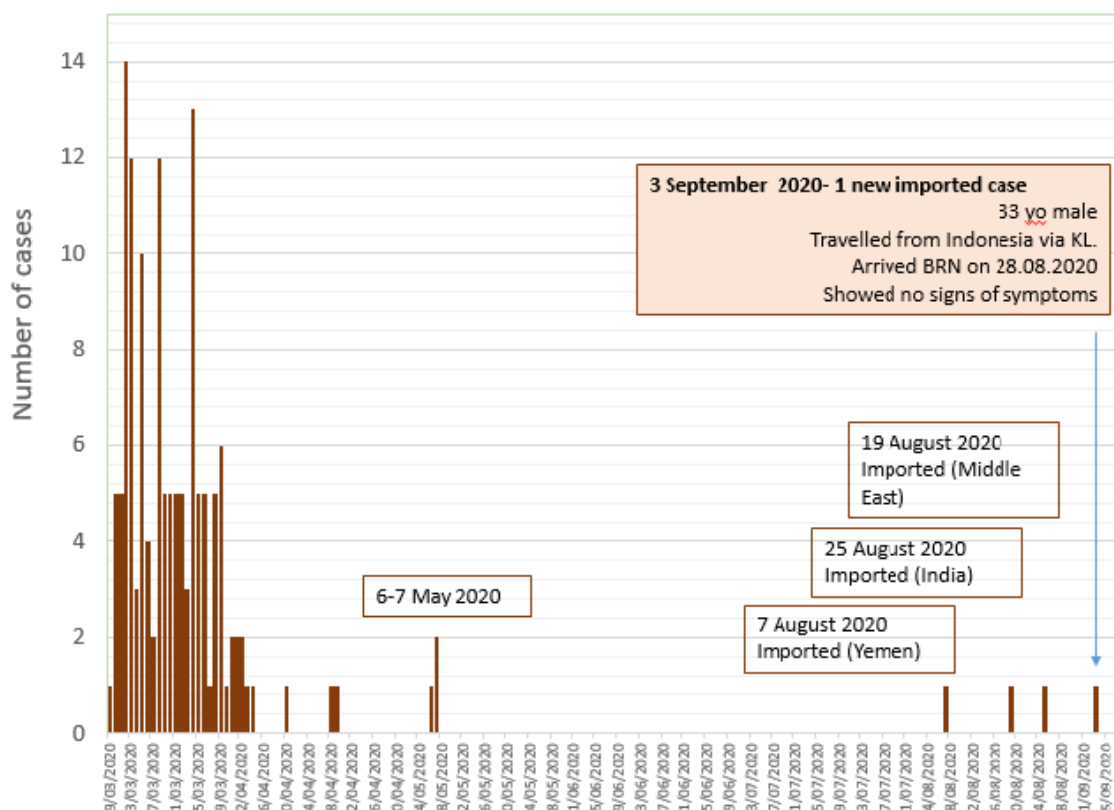
Active clusters

0

Active clusters with more than three generations

Epidemiology

Fig. 1. New daily reported COVID-19 cases, Brunei Darussalam, March 2020 to 6 September 2020



Strategic approach

Non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI)

- Brunei Darussalam and Singapore have established a Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL) agreement to permit essential travel between the two countries for a limited number of people. Applications for the RGL opened on 1 September. Travellers will need to adhere to a controlled itinerary, must show proof of a negative COVID-19 test prior to the trip, and are subject to a swab test upon arrival at their destination. However, travellers who test negative will not be required to undergo the mandatory 14-day quarantine. Travellers from Brunei Darussalam will be required to seek an exit travel permit from the Brunei Darussalam Prime Minister's Office prior to departure.
- The Government issued new travel guidelines for foreign nationals on 3 September. Foreign nationals who are undertaking essential business and official travel, seeking medical treatment, studying in Brunei Darussalam or travelling for compassionate circumstances may be permitted entry into the country. Travellers will be tested upon arrival and must also produce a testing certificate with negative results taken 72 hours before their departure. Applications for travel will be assessed based on the type of travel and three risk categories of the country of disembarkation. Depending on the risk level of the country of departure, mandatory quarantine could be imposed from 2 to 14 days.

- On 3 September, the Government announced further moves in the national de-escalation plan. Measures will come into effect from 7 September and will include increasing the limit for mass gatherings to 350 people. It is now mandatory for businesses to print and display the BruHealth QR codes at their premises. Organized sports events will be allowed but only for specified recreational sports. Senior citizen centres will now be allowed to operate at full capacity.

Testing and surveillance

- A total of 1551 samples have been tested for SARS-CoV-2 in the past seven days, bringing the total number of laboratory tests conducted since January 2020 to 53 292. This equates to approximately 11% of the population.

Non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI)

- As of 6 September, 461 individuals are undergoing mandatory isolation at government-run monitoring centres. Since March 2020, a total of 5248 individuals have completed mandatory isolation at these centres.