

Brunei Darussalam

Situation summary

- One new case was reported in Brunei Darussalam in the past seven days (on 24 September), bringing the total number of COVID-19 cases to 146 cases, including three deaths.
- The latest case is an imported case:
 - Case #146 is a 29-year-old local man who returned from India on Royal Brunei BI4112 flight. He was tested upon arrival in Brunei Darussalam on 18 September 2020, as part of the routine screening process for all travellers into the country. The man did not present any symptoms and was taken to the National Isolation Centre upon arrival, limiting the risk of further community exposure.
- The newly reported case is the only active case in the country.
- No new COVID-19-associated deaths were reported.

Upcoming events and priorities

- As of 22 September, Brunei Darussalam has formally signed up to join the COVAX COVID-19 vaccine access plan.
- Japan has added Brunei Darussalam to its list of countries from which newly arriving expatriates and other long-term residents will be allowed to travel, starting from 8 October.
- Visit the [Ministry of Health Brunei Darussalam](#) website or contact the [Health Advice Line 148](#) or the [BruHealth App](#) website for more information.

National transmission assessment

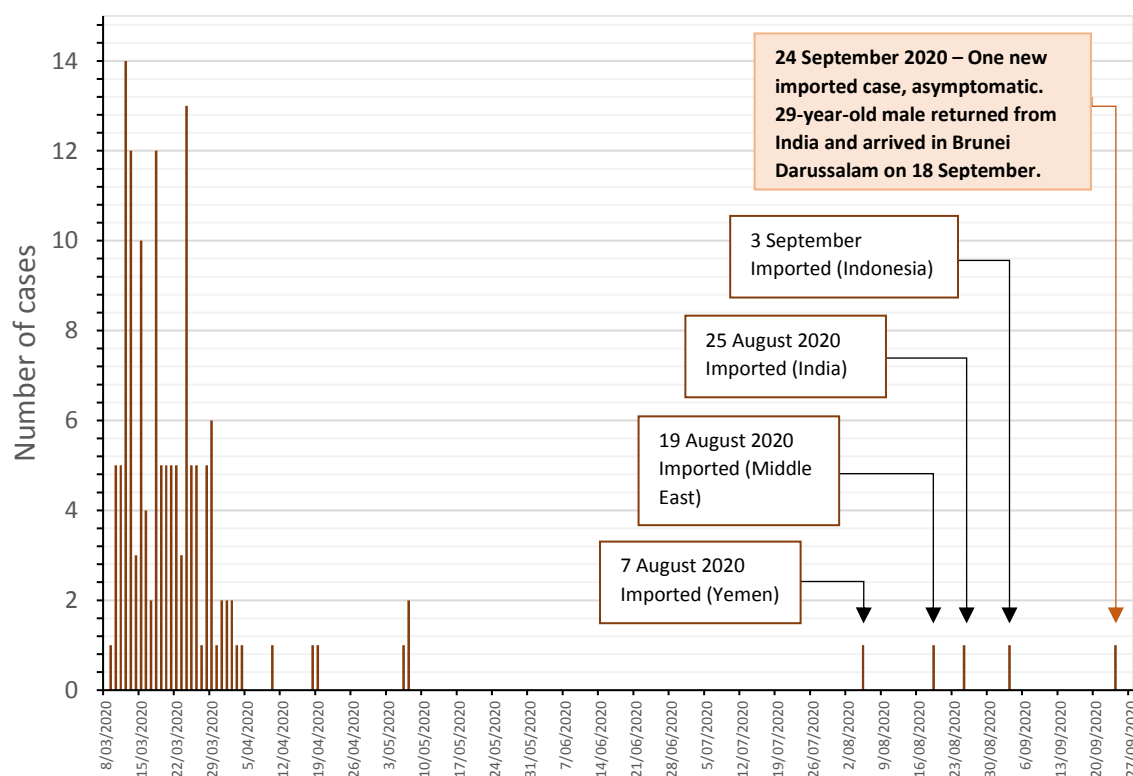
At the national level, Brunei Darussalam remains in **Stage 1, imported cases**. On 24 September, one imported case was reported – a 29-year-old male travelling from India. This case is also Brunei Darussalam's only active case. Since early August, there have been four other imported cases, from the Middle East, India and Indonesia. As imported cases are placed in government-maintained quarantine and isolation facilities upon arrival as part of the routine quarantine protocol for travellers, the risk of wider community transmission is low. No local transmissions have been reported despite the easing of non-pharmaceutical interventions since 16 May.



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| Epi Update COVID-19 <i>Data reported for epi week ending 27 September 2020</i> <i>(% difference compared to the previous 7 days)</i> | Tests 2085 Tests in the past 7 days (27%) | 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 (-) |
| | 58 357 Cumulative tests 0.25% Positivity rate | 146 Cumulative cases | 3 Cumulative deaths 2.05% Case fatality rate | 85 ICU beds for COVID-19 patients |
| Imported cases and clusters | 1 (100%) Imported cases in the past 7 days | 0 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 27 September 2020



Strategic approach

Non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI)

- All travellers exiting the country must undergo SARS-CoV-2 swab tests at least three to five days prior to their exit date/flight.
- Since June 2020, a total of 891 business premises have been inspected and 540 compounds issued.
- Mass gatherings are capped at 350 people at one time, including all guests, members of staff or anyone present at the event.
- Effective 28 September 2020, arcades and playgrounds (indoor and outdoor) have been moved to Level 3 of the de-escalation plan. This includes being permitted to operate at 80% capacity, along with specified standard operating procedures. Swimming pools are moved to Level 4 with 100% capacity allowed but at a maximum of 100 people at any one time.
- Tournaments without spectators are now allowed for six sports, namely tennis, squash, badminton, table tennis, *sepak takraw* and golf.
- Almost all Brunei residents have registered on the BruHealth app. Users will be introduced to new features such as online booking of medical appointments, personal health records tracker, access to video consultations and an online payment platform for the SARS-CoV-2 test.

Testing and surveillance

- A total of 2085 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 58 357. This equates to approximately 13% of the population.

Non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI)

- As of 27 September, 435 individuals are undergoing mandatory quarantine at government-run monitoring centres. Since March 2020, a total of 6 172 individuals have completed mandatory quarantine at these centres.