



Country Intelligence Brief

Thailand

Overall Risk Rating

2.75 - Moderate

Table of Contents

Ratings Overview	3
Factbox	4
Overview	5
Security	5
Infrastructure	7
Environment	11
Health and Medical	12
Political	16
LGBTQ Security	23
Active Alerts	25

Ratings Overview

Security

3.00 - Moderate

Civil Unrest	● 3.00
Crime	● 3.00
Kidnapping	● 2.00
Terrorism	● 3.00
Armed Conflict	● 2.75
Security Services	● 3.00

Infrastructure

3.00 - Moderate

Ground Transport	● 3.75
Cyber	● 3.50
Maritime	● 2.75
Air Travel	● 2.00
Utilities	● 2.75

Environment

2.50 - Moderate

Man-Made Hazards	● 1.50
Seismic	● 2.50
Storm Systems	● 3.50
Natural Hazards	● 2.25

Health and Medical

3.00 - Moderate

Disease and Health Threats	● 2.50
Medical Facilities and Services	● 3.50
Mental Health	● 3.50
Food and Water Safety	● 3.50

Political

3.25 - Moderate

Corruption	● 3.00
Government Stability	● 3.50
Rule of Law	● 3.50
Sanctions	● 1.00

LGBTQ Security

2.00 - Low

LGBTQ Legal Environment	● 2.00
LGBTQ Enforcement	● 2.00
LGBTQ Social Environment	● 2.00

FactBox

Location	Thailand
Government Type	Constitutional monarchy
Population	71,620,000 (2025)
Languages	Official Language: Thai. Other languages that are considered official or widely spoken: English, Isan, Kelantan-Pattani Malay. Languages that should only be used discreetly: None.
International Country Code	+66
Time Zones	UTC+7
Traffic	Drives on the left
Drinking Water	Not Safe to Drink

Overview

2.75 - Moderate

Thailand is a developing country in Southeast Asia and the region's second-largest economy. Political and class divisions have undermined the country's stability for most of the past decade, resulting in two coups, the latest of which established a military government in 2014. The longtime opposition and pro-democracy Pheu Thai Party (PTP), associated with the deposed former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, returned to power in the 2023 general election by forming a coalition government with conservative and military-linked parties. However, instability continues as the Constitutional Court dismissed Srettha Thavisin from his prime ministerial post in August 2024 for ethical violations, and suspended his successor Paetongtarn Shinawatra in July 2025 pending investigations.

Corruption remains a concern for both local and foreign entities, despite an ongoing crackdown on allegedly corrupt officials. The government's measures to boost the struggling economy have also been slow to take effect.

A separatist insurgency remains an enduring source of insecurity in southern Thailand and leads to occasional terrorist attacks in major urban centers, including Bangkok. Neither military operations nor negotiations have thus far resulted in a solution to the low-level conflict. Differences among the different militant groups have also hindered attempts to reach a peace deal with Thai authorities. Additionally, the nation has strained relations with Cambodia over long-standing territorial disputes. Multiple countries continue to advise against nonessential travel to areas bordering Cambodia, following cross-border military clashes in late July 2025.

Petty and opportunistic crime is a concern in Bangkok and popular tourist destinations across the country. Floods are also a recurring problem in several parts of the country, notably during the monsoon season, and air pollution is a significant issue around Bangkok and northern Thailand. Access to healthcare is scarce in rural areas.

Security

3.00 - Moderate

Petty and opportunistic crime remains a concern in the Thai capital and popular tourist destinations. Violent crime targeting or affecting short-term foreign travelers is rare. Terror threats have mainly been concentrated in the Deep South region due to an ongoing separatist insurgency, although bombings have affected other parts of the country, including Bangkok. There is a moderate risk of armed conflict along the border with Cambodia due to a long-standing border dispute over the Preah Vihear temple and its surroundings. The latest armed clashes occurred in 2025, with both sides exchanging heavy artillery and rocket fire from July 24. The Buriram, Sisaket, Surin, and Ubon Ratchathani were worst affected, and face an elevated risk of sporadic clashes despite a bilateral ceasefire. Multiple countries continue to advise against nonessential travel to areas bordering Cambodia.

The extent of civil unrest has significantly reduced in recent years due to restrictions on public gatherings put in place following the 2014 coup. However, occasional escalations have occurred since the 2019 and 2023 elections, often tied to concerns about democratic rights and socio-economic inequality.

Periods of heightened operational risk in Thailand may coincide with politically and religiously significant events. National elections, government policy announcements, and anniversaries of major political events or coups can trigger demonstrations, particularly in Bangkok and other major cities. Religious observances - including Songkran (Thai New Year), Ramadan, and Buddhist holidays - may increase crowd density at temples, public spaces, and transport hubs.

In the Deep South, developments related to the separatist insurgency, security operations, or anniversaries of past attacks can prompt localized violence or bombings. Border areas with Cambodia may experience sporadic clashes during periods of military tension, especially near Preah Vihear. Large public gatherings, conferences, or international events may also result in heightened security measures and temporary movement restrictions, though these are generally precautionary.

Civil Unrest

● 3.00

Protests and strike actions initially declined in frequency when the military took over the national government in May 2014 and immediately imposed a ban on public gatherings. However, protests have occasionally increased in frequency and size since 2019, following a controversial election and subsequent moves by authorities to dissolve an opposition party. Protests are often triggered by concerns about democratic rights and socio-economic inequality. There is a significant risk that direct intervention by the security forces could lead to escalation and exacerbate tensions during large-scale events.

There has also been an increase in the use of Thailand's lèse-majesté laws since the junta government seized power, and the UN and a number of foreign governments have criticized the junta's tight control of the public sphere and alleged human rights violations. The government has argued that the measures are needed to ensure peace and order amid heightened political divisions. Some protesters have also challenged the monarchy and called for reforms, which could increasingly bring the movement into conflict with royalist counter-protesters, or potentially trigger a harsher crackdown by the government.

Crime

 3.00

The most common criminal activities that affect foreign travelers and businesspeople are petty and opportunistic in nature, such as purse snatching and pick-pocketing. Petty crimes are common in areas where tourists and locals tend to converge, including marketplaces and transportation hubs in Bangkok, Pattaya, Phuket and Koh Samui. It is worth noting that some thieves in urban centers utilize motorcycles, with victims incurring injuries after being dragged onto the streets. Credit card and ATM fraud involving skimming machines, which can store card data, are occasionally reported, whilst currency exchange scams are rampant in popular tourist destinations.

Many tourists are also victimized by con artists who pose as guides and steer victims to gemstone dealers who overcharge for inferior quality stones or lead them to over-priced, occasionally dangerous, disreputable establishments in the Bangkok's "red-light" district (Patpong). In addition, travelers should be aware of the dangers associated with Thailand's large and lucrative sex industry. Many foreigners have been caught up in con-games where prostitution is a factor. One common scam involves prostitutes, with the assistance of 'spotters', lacing the food or drink of foreign men seeking companionship and later robbing them once the drug has taken effect.

Although foreigners are generally unaffected, gun-related violence is a concern in the country. Authorities do not usually disclose specific statistics on gun violence to the public, though international studies indicate that gun deaths are high by regional standards. Kidnapping is not a major concern, although some foreigners have reportedly been abducted in Bangkok and other parts of the country.

Kidnapping

 2.00

The threat of kidnapping in Thailand is low; kidnappers are more likely to target locals, particularly in the insurgency-wrecked Deep South region. The most common types of abduction in Thailand include basic opportunistic kidnap-for-ransom, high-net-worth individual kidnap-for-ransom, and political kidnapping. Victims are usually released unharmed and relatively quickly, though could face the threat of injury or death during confinement.

Terrorism

 3.00

The country has experienced a number of terror attacks, including in the capital, although incidents of such violence have generally been reported in the Deep South due to the ongoing insurgency.

Militant groups in the Deep South have carried out multiple terrorist-style attacks, including coordinated bombings and raids against security forces. An explosion at Bangkok's Erawan Shrine in August 2015 that left 20 people dead, including several foreigners, was blamed on a radical Turkish nationalist group responding to Thailand's deportation of a group of Turkic Uyghurs to China. Although a detained suspect had

earlier confirmed the involvement of the foreign entity in the attack, recent accounts indicate that this admission occurred during the course of torture.

Thailand has passed several counterterrorism laws, although the actual implementation of these bills is perceived to be weak. The government has also begun negotiating with militant groups in a bid to put an end to the violence. However, talks have yet to yield significant results.

Armed Conflict

2.75

Armed conflict in Thailand primarily centers around the separatist insurgency in the Deep South region. Separatist militant groups have embarked upon a low-level but sustained insurgency since 2004 in Pattani, Yala, and Narathiwat provinces as well as several districts of neighboring Songkhla province. Some insurgent groups are Islamist, but the movement remains predominantly motivated by ethnic grievances of Malays. Common targets include security personnel and installations, local officials, Buddhist religious figures, teachers and schools, as well as civilians believed to be supporting the Thai government.

Militants, mainly from the Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN), have also previously carried out several bombings and acts of vandalism in popular tourist areas. In recent years, small-scale bombings have largely occurred in the Deep South region, with no significant attacks in urban or tourist centers. However, authorities maintain heightened vigilance and have foiled attempts to plant explosive-like material at 11 locations in Krabi, Phang Nga, and Phuket provinces in June 2025.

There are no indications that the southern insurgency will end in the immediate term. Although the government has held talks with various outfits like BRN and Mara Patani, the likelihood of securing a lasting and comprehensive peace deal is low. The talks have been repeatedly hampered by disagreement over insurgent groups' demand for an autonomous region, violent attacks, and security operations.

In addition, tension occasionally flares up in the vicinity of Preah Vihear Temple near the border with Cambodia in Sisaket province's Kathalarak district due to a territorial dispute between Bangkok and Phnom Penh. Although a large-scale armed conflict between the two is unlikely, it is worth noting that low-level skirmishes have occurred in the vicinity of the contested border. The latest armed clashes occurred in 2025, with both sides exchanging heavy artillery and rocket fire from July 24. The Buriram, Sisaket, Surin, and Ubon Ratchathani were worst affected, and face an elevated risk of sporadic clashes despite a bilateral ceasefire. Multiple countries continue to advise against nonessential travel to areas bordering Cambodia.

Security Services

3.00

The capabilities and responsiveness of security services in Thailand are generally adequate (risk is moderate). Although Thailand has a number of different security forces, local police units are likely to be the most relevant for local staff. The Thai Tourist Police, a division of the Royal Thai Police, are better prepared than other forces to handle the needs of foreign nationals. Police officers are typically unable to speak foreign languages, but officers in tourist areas may be able to speak English. In Thailand, foreign nationals should always contact their diplomatic mission in addition to security forces.

Infrastructure

3.00 - Moderate

There are no major concerns over air travel.

Thailand has a significantly high rate of road fatalities, with majority of accidents involving two- and three-wheeled vehicles. There is low enforcement of traffic rules.

The ports are considered relatively efficient.

Power supply, mobile coverage and Internet connections are considered reliable in Bangkok and major cities, although the quality of such services is lower in rural areas.

Cybercrime poses a considerable threat in Thailand.

Ground Transport

 3.75

Major highways connect main cities in Thailand. Roads in urban centers are paved, although some of the thoroughfares have potholes. Unpaved roads are common in rural areas. It is worth noting that roads in Thailand, including those in Bangkok, can get inundated during or following heavy downpours. Rain-triggered landslides can also obstruct vehicular travel.

The country consistently ranks high in road fatality rates, with the government pledging to reduce deaths due to traffic accidents from over 32 per 100, 000 in 2018 (according to the World Health Organization) to 12 per 100,000 by 2027. Variable law enforcement levels, drink-driving, and speeding are major causes of accidents, that predominantly affect two- and three-wheeled vehicles.

The railway network in Thailand is considered extensive, connecting major cities and reaching to the furthest extremities of the country. The four major train routes are: The Northern Line, North Eastern Line, Eastern Line and Southern Line. Travel by rail is reasonably safe and comfortable, although not efficient in terms of time. Rain-triggered floods and landslides can also cause rail service disruptions.

Local Buses

 Unrated

Intercity bus travel is available between most major cities. Intercity buses in Thailand have a poor safety record. Petty theft and other criminal activities pose a moderate threat to travelers.

City buses are available in most urban centers. City buses in Thailand have a poor safety record. Petty theft and other criminal activities pose a moderate threat to travelers.

Mass Transit

 Unrated

Metro systems are available in the capital in Thailand. The country's metro systems are generally efficient and safe. Derailments and other accidents are rare. Securing personal items onboard metro trains is important, as theft is an especially common problem. Terrorism poses a moderate threat to metro networks.

Taxis

 Unrated

Taxis are readily available in most major cities in Thailand. Overcharging is commonly perpetrated against taxi passengers, especially foreign nationals. Taxis arranged in advance by upscale hotels or trusted business associates are generally safer than those hailed on the street.

Ride-sharing services or vehicles ordered through online apps are available in most major cities in Thailand. Local-specific taxi systems are available in cities in Thailand and have an average safety record.

Train Travel

 Unrated

Train Safety

Trains in Thailand have a poor recent safety record. Derailments and rail accidents involving passenger trains occasionally occur. Incidents of petty theft are common on trains in Thailand. Petty crime poses a medium threat at rail stations. Security services have adequate capabilities at most major railway stations. Insurgents occasionally attack trains, rail stations, and rail infrastructure in Thailand, particularly in Southern Thailand.

Reliability and Availability

Thailand has an extensive intercity passenger rail network. Rail travel is available between almost all major cities and many smaller cities and towns.

International Rail Travel

Thailand has international rail connections with multiple countries.

Vehicles and Roads

● Unrated

Road safety conditions in Thailand are generally poor. Traffic in Thailand drives on the left. Roads in cities and rural areas are generally paved. Drivers generally ignore traffic laws. Police lightly enforce traffic laws. Serious traffic accidents are common. Heavy traffic congestion is pervasive in major cities, particularly Bangkok. Foreigners planning to drive in Thailand must have an International Driving Permit (IDP). Car rentals are available in most major cities.

International Road Travel

Thailand has international road connections with multiple countries.

Cyber

● 3.50

Geostrategic Concerns

Thailand's cybersecurity environment faces a moderate to high level of threat, shaped by a mix of increasing cyber activity, developing institutional capacity, and growing but uneven digital resilience. The country is regularly targeted by state-linked cyber espionage groups, especially those focusing on government agencies, including the military, as well as major financial, IT, and industrial organizations. Broader cybersecurity risks also include online surveillance and content restrictions, with individuals' exposure sometimes influenced by political context and alignment.

Thailand's legal and regulatory environment is expanding, with the legislature being the Cybersecurity Act of 2019. This law imposes requirements on data protection, incident response and reporting data breaches; however, their effectiveness is low because the law is limited to government agencies, regulatory organizations, and critical infrastructure regulations. Institutional capacity is provided by the Thailand Computer Emergency Response Team (ThaiCERT) and the National Cyber Security Committee, which ensures partial coordination between government, private sector, and critical infrastructure providers. Overall, domestic infrastructure is vulnerable, with protections strongest in the financial, healthcare and government sectors while weakest protections are in the educational, small-to-medium enterprises and sectors that involve extensive third-party vendors.

Cybercrime

Cybercrime in Thailand is assessed as a high threat. Common threats include ransomware, phishing, malware, BEC schemes, identity theft, ransomware and Internet of Things (IoT) attacks, with individuals, small-to-medium enterprises, and critical sectors most vulnerable to compromise. Thailand also experiences e-commerce fraud, romance and investment scams, and supply chain disruptions.

Law enforcement capacity is limited, with authorities under-resourced and under-skilled in addressing cybercrime, and regulatory enforcement is uneven. Cooperation with international partners in emerging. Systemic resilience is dependent on institutional resources, training and skills development, global partnerships and cooperation between the public and private sectors.

Maritime

 2.75

Thailand does not suffer from any significant maritime threat. The risk of opportunistic sea robbery is low. Infrastructures in Thailand are still developing, and the risk of collision or infrastructure accidents remains.

Air Travel

 2.00

Thailand's aviation safety audit scores have largely improved within the last year. The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) recently scored above the global average on its most recent UN audit, a significant improvement from previous scores. The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) also upgraded its status from category 2 to a category 1 in early 2025, which allows Thai airlines to fly to the US, or codeshare with US airlines. None of Thailand's airlines are on the list of blacklisted airlines in the EU or UK, and some hold EU and UK authorizations.

Thailand's primary airport is Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK), located approximately 30km (19 miles) east of Bangkok city center. Don Mueang International Airport (DMK) is the secondary aviation hub in the Thai capital and serves both domestic and international flights. There are also international airports in surrounding cities: Phuket international Airport (HKT) , Samui Airport (USM), U-Tapao International Airport (UTP), and Chiang Mai international Airport (CNX).

There are several forms of ground transport from Thailand's major airports, including buses, taxis, trains, and shuttle services. Areas outside airports are generally considered safe.

Utilities

 2.75

Thailand has nearly 100 percent access to electricity. However, the country faces the risk of energy insecurity as demand for imported energy has significantly increased amidst limited domestic sources. Electricity generation is also highly monopolized, and power plants are the largest contributor of carbon dioxide in the country.

In addition, there are concerns over the country's gas supply as it has become more reliant on LNG imports in recent years. Its failure to shift to renewable energy has also increased the likelihood of possible energy shortages in the future. Mobile communications coverage remains weaker in rural areas compared to major urban centers.

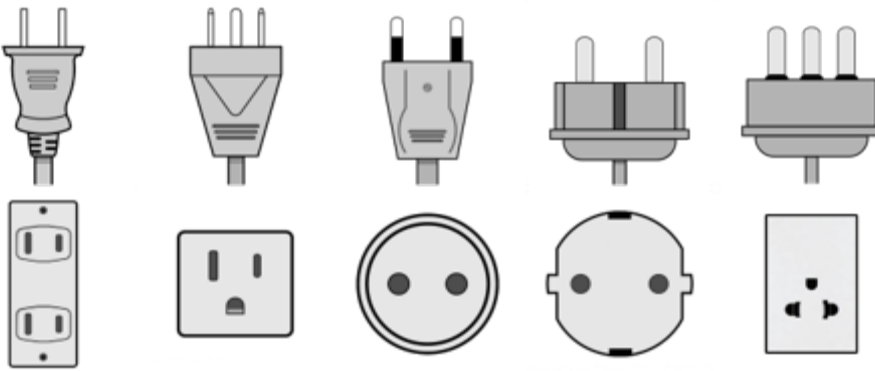
Mobile communications coverage remains weaker in rural areas compared to major urban centers. The Internet speed in Thailand is the eighth fastest in Asia.

Electricity

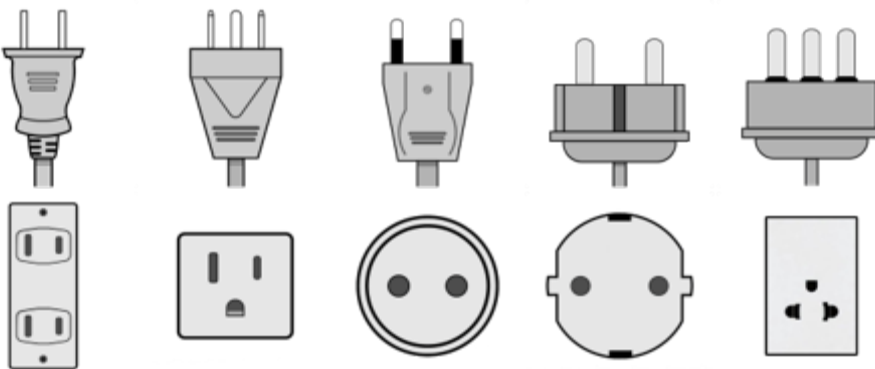
 Unrated

Electricity in Thailand is supplied at 220 V, 50 Hz. Thailand uses Type A, B, C, F, and O plugs.

Plug Types



Types de prises



Internet and Telecommunications

● Unrated

Internet service in Thailand is readily available in most public accommodations and internet cafes. Internet activity may be monitored in most areas.

Environment

2.50 - Moderate

Heavy downpours and associated disruptions are common during the monsoon season, which usually runs May to October across the country, except for the southeastern coast, where the wet period runs from October to February. In addition, some parts of the country are vulnerable to earthquakes as well as life-threatening tsunamis that can result in widespread destruction.

Man-Made Hazards

● 1.50

Air pollution, especially around Bangkok and in northern provinces, is a significant hazard that may cause severe health complications, especially among travelers with pre-existing lung-related conditions. Factories concentrated around Bangkok, and forest and field fires set by farmers to assist with agriculture production, particularly in the "burning season" between January and March, are the root cause of Thailand's air pollution problems.

Seismic

● 2.50

Earthquakes occasionally occur in Thailand as it sits in a seismically active region. According to the Department of Mineral Resources, there are 14 groups of active faults spread across 22 provinces, which are mostly in northern, western, and southern Thailand. Although most

earthquakes are of low-to-moderate intensity, the occasional more powerful earthquake can occur. In addition, powerful tremors in neighboring countries like Myanmar have been felt across Thailand, including in Bangkok.

Thailand lacks adequate quake-and tsunami-related preparedness measures, including strict adherence to building codes. The government also has limited vehicles and equipment to respond swiftly to victims of earthquakes and tsunamis.

Storm Systems

 3.50

Storm systems are common during the monsoon season May-October across the country, except for the southeastern coast, where the wet period runs October-February. Tropical storms usually approach from the western North Pacific Ocean or the South China Sea and typically weaken as a tropical depression as they reach the country, given its geographical location. In addition, thunderstorms often affect northern Thailand April-October, and the southern part of the country March-November. These storm systems have the potential to unleash heavy downpours and powerful winds as well as trigger a major storm surge that all pose considerable hazards to human life and infrastructure.

Tropical Storm Risk (TSR) is predicting above-average activity of around 25 percent in 2026 due to moderate to strong El Nino conditions. In 2026, El Nino conditions are forecast. Storm formation is likely to shift; countries and islands further east and north, including Micronesia, Guam, Japan, Korea, eastern mainland China, and Taiwan, are likely to see a greater number and higher intensity storms.

Forecast Parameter	Average (based on historical activity 1991-2020) Tropical Storm Risk	
Number of Named Storms	25.5	27
Number of Typhoons	16	18
Number of Intense Typhoons	9.3	11

It is worth noting that Thailand has inadequate preparedness and crisis response measures, despite its high vulnerability to meteorological hazards. Torrential downpours also easily overwhelm the country's drainage system, dykes and dams, raising the risk of widespread floods, including in the Thai capital, and major landslides.

Natural Hazards

 2.25

Similar to its neighbors in Southeast Asia, extreme weather is a cyclical concern in Thailand. The presence of El Nino can cause severe drought, whilst an extreme amount of rainfall is likely during the La Nina phenomenon. Water shortages can be a cause of concern during drought periods, prompting authorities to periodically impose restrictions on the use of water. Conversely, during periods of more abundant rainfall high river levels can trigger widespread flooding in low-lying areas.

Air Quality

 Unrated

Air Quality

Air pollution routinely exceeds recommended thresholds in urban areas. Individuals with asthma or chronic cardiorespiratory conditions should consult with a healthcare provider and carry necessary medications. On days when air quality is particularly poor, affected individuals should take personal precautions to reduce respiratory stress ([map](#)).

Health and Medical

 3.00 - Moderate

Thailand has several diseases and health threats, like dengue fever and Japanese encephalitis. Vaccines before travel are also required, for example, for yellow fever. The quality of healthcare is highest in urban centers, but essential health services are available nationwide. The availability and quality of medical care are more limited in rural areas. Tap water is unsafe for consumption.

Disease and Health Threats

2.50

Diseases of High Risk

- **Traveler's Diarrhea:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. This is the most common illness in travelers. People who become ill by an infectious agent that causes traveler's diarrhea most often experience nausea, vomiting, fever, bloody stools, and/or the urge to constantly pass stools despite an empty gastrointestinal tract.
- **Dengue Fever:** Transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, mainly during the day. Bite prevention is essential. Symptoms of dengue fever include a sudden onset of fever and at least one of the following: severe headache, severe pain behind the eyes, muscle and/or joint pain, rash, easy bruising, and/or nose or gum bleeding. Fever and other symptoms generally appear abruptly four to seven days after being bitten. Some people have reported experiencing no symptoms. The risk of infection is nationwide. Risk is highest from May to October.
- **Chikungunya:** Transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, mostly during daytime hours. Bite prevention is essential. Symptoms commonly include fever, joint pain, muscle pain, headache, and rash. People usually develop symptoms three to seven days after being bitten. Most people recover within a week, but joint pain can persist for months. The risk of infection is likely nationwide. Risk is highest from May to October.
- **Leptospirosis:** Transmitted through exposure or ingestion of water contaminated with the urine of infected animals. Flooding poses an additional risk of contracting leptospirosis. Initial symptoms of leptospirosis typically develop two days to four weeks after exposure. Such symptoms include headache, fever, muscle aches, chills, diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain. Those who may be at high risk can take an antibiotic prophylaxis. Cases occur mainly in the southern and northeastern regions of the country. Risk is highest during the rainy season, from July to October.
- **Tuberculosis:** Transmitted through respiratory droplets released by coughing or sneezing. Individuals planning an extended stay should consider obtaining a PPD skin test to reference against future suspected infections. Symptoms commonly include chest pain, a bad cough lasting three weeks or longer, and coughing up blood and/or sputum. Some people also experience chills, weight loss, fever, weakness, night sweats, and loss of appetite.
- **Hepatitis A:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Hepatitis A does not always cause symptoms. If they occur, symptoms appear two to six weeks after exposure and include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, dark urine, loss of appetite, joint pain, and jaundice.

Diseases of Moderate Risk

- **Malaria:** Transmitted through mosquito bites. Symptoms of malaria most commonly include fever, chills, headaches and body aches, nausea and vomiting, and general malaise. These symptoms usually develop 10-28 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. However, there are reports of symptoms beginning as early as seven days to as late as one year. Preventative medications (prophylaxis) are available. The risk of infection is low and exists countrywide, except in the city of Pattaya and the islands of Krabi Province (Koh Phi Phi, Koh Yao Noi, Koh Yao Yai, and Koh Lanta).

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- **Typhoid Fever:** Transmitted by contaminated milk, water, and food. Raw fish and shellfish from contaminated waters are likely to be infected. Symptoms of typhoid fever usually include fever, abdominal pain or discomfort, chills and body aches, weakness, and loss of appetite.
 - **Japanese Encephalitis:** Transmitted through mosquito bites. Fewer than 1 percent of individuals infected develop symptoms. When symptoms do occur, they usually develop four to 14 days after being infected. Most individuals develop mild, influenza-like symptoms. However, some infections may progress to encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), which can be life-threatening. Risk is greatest for extended time in rural endemic areas and for those involved in agriculture. Japanese Encephalitis is endemic to many parts of Thailand outside the capital. The risk of infection exists year-round, with seasonal epidemics occurring in the northern provinces from May to October.
 - **Rabies:** Transmitted through the saliva of infected wild or domesticated mammals, usually by a bite or scratch. Do not approach unfamiliar animals. Wild and domestic animals pose a threat.
 - **Hepatitis B:** Transmitted through infected blood and bodily fluids and effectively prevented with vaccination. An unexpected medical or dental emergency may place the unvaccinated traveler at risk. Practice safe sex and ensure medical procedures, tattoos, or piercings are conducted using sterile equipment. Symptoms include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, dark urine, loss of appetite, joint pain, and jaundice.

Diseases of Low Risk

- **Hepatitis E:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Symptoms appear two to eight weeks after exposure and include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, joint pain, and jaundice.
- **Zika Virus:** Transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, mostly during the day, or sexually through an infected partner. Mosquito bite prevention and practicing safe sex are essential. In many cases, the Zika virus is asymptomatic; however, in some, it may cause symptoms similar to dengue and chikungunya, including fever, rash, joint pain, and red eyes. Significant birth defects have been associated with Zika virus infection in pregnant women. Partners of women who have recently traveled to an area with Zika virus circulation are encouraged to use condoms for at least six months or the duration of a partner's pregnancy. The risk of infection is nationwide. Risk is highest from May to October.
- **Avian Influenza H5N1:** Transmitted through direct contact with poultry, birds, and bird droppings. Symptoms of human H5N1 are usually severe, including high fever, cough, and shortness of breath. The risk of human infection from avian influenza H5N1 is generally low, but it is greater for individuals with frequent, close contact with wild birds and/or live or recently dead poultry.
- **HIV/AIDS:** Transmitted through infected blood and bodily fluids. Practice safe sex and ensure medical procedures, tattoos, or piercings are conducted using sterile equipment. Within two to four weeks of HIV infection, many people, but not all, experience influenza-like illness, including fever, swollen glands, sore throat, rash, fatigue, muscle and joint pains, and headache. These symptoms, also called acute retroviral syndrome (ARS), can last from days to weeks. Without treatment, the infection can lead to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).
- **Altitude Sickness:** Some locations in Thailand are above 2,440 meters (8,000 feet). Some people may experience adverse health effects at such altitudes. Ascend gradually to allow acclimatization and remain watchful for signs of altitude sickness or more severe manifestations.

Health Requirements

● Unrated

Yellow Fever: Vaccination Required

Thailand is not considered at risk for **yellow fever**. Nevertheless, vaccination is **required** upon arrival for all travelers aged nine months or over who have visited or transited through an airport in a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. Single dose, full-strength yellow fever vaccine is valid for life.

HIV Testing

HIV testing may be required for tourist, work, and/or residence permits. Contact the local embassy for more information.

Health Recommendations

● Unrated

Recommended Immunizations for Travel to Thailand

Travelers should ensure that they have routine vaccination courses and boosters. You should visit a healthcare professional at least four to six weeks prior to the trip. Routine vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, varicella (chickenpox), polio, and annual flu vaccine. Travelers should consider obtaining COVID-19 vaccination where available, even if the destination country does not require it.

- **Hepatitis A:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated. Two doses, administered at least six months apart, are required for long-lasting protection. It is recommended that all susceptible people traveling for any purpose, frequency, or duration to countries with high or intermediate hepatitis A endemicity be vaccinated or receive immune globulin before departure. A booster is recommended for partially vaccinated travelers.
- **Hepatitis B:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated. Widely used formulations require three doses administered over the course of six to 18 months, depending on the recipient's age and vaccination history. Booster doses after a complete series are usually not required to maintain immunity. If exposed before finalizing the full series, individuals may receive a special booster within 24 hours for short-term protection.
- **Japanese Encephalitis:** Unless contraindicated, it is recommended for individuals who are moving to or planning stays of one month or longer in endemic areas, especially in rural areas with rice fields or marshland during the transmission season, which occurs between May and October. It is also recommended for travelers engaging in activities that increase the risk of infection, such as visiting rural areas, hiking or camping, or staying in places without air conditioning, screens, or bed nets. Widely used formulations require two doses administered 28 days apart. An accelerated series may be available, with the first dose required at least two weeks before travel.
- **Rabies:** Unless contraindicated, the WHO and CDC recommend vaccination for individuals who will be performing occupational or recreational activities that increase the risk for exposure to potentially rabid animals, such as animal handlers, field biologists, cavers, missionaries, veterinarians, and some laboratory workers. It is also recommended for travelers who might have difficulty getting prompt access to safe post-exposure prophylaxis. Thailand has reported rabies in domestic and wild animals, thus most travelers are at risk. Bats are likely to carry bat rabies.
- **Typhoid Fever:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated, especially those staying with friends or relatives in endemic areas or visiting smaller cities or rural areas. Widely used formulations require between two and four doses, depending on the formulation and the recipient's vaccination history. Booster vaccination is required every two or five years depending on the formulation. The last dose should be taken at least one week before travel.

Medical Facilities and Services
 3.50

The healthcare quality in Thailand's urban centers is generally of good standard, especially at major private hospitals. The availability and quality of medical care are more limited in rural areas. Private hospitals in Thailand are of a high standard but can be expensive. Hospitals and doctors usually require advance payment or proof of adequate insurance before admitting a patient. Ambulance services are available but may be slow to respond, especially in rural areas.

Medications and Pharmacy
 Unrated

Pharmacies across Thailand are readily available, especially in hospitals or as private entities. Supply of most medicines needed by travelers is high. It is recommended to only purchase medication from reputable pharmacies to limit the risk of using counterfeit products or medicines of poor quality. Prior to travelling confirm the status of your "over the counter" medicines with accredited foreign government offices of Thailand in your country. Always carry your prescription medication in its original packaging, along with your doctor's prescription and any other relevant documentation.

Mental Health
 3.50

Mental health service availability is limited and conditions are moderately managed.

Food and Water Safety
 3.50

Drinking tap water is generally unsafe in Thailand. Use bottled, boiled, or otherwise purified water for drinking and cooking. Do not use ice cubes made from unpurified water sources. Eat only thoroughly cooked food served hot or fruits and vegetables you have cleaned and peeled; avoid salads. Consume only pasteurized milk and dairy products, or use powdered or canned milk and cured cheeses. Avoid street vendors and unregulated food establishments.

Political
 3.25 - Moderate

The military remains highly influential in Thailand, with pro-military Bhumjaithai Party in power after the dismissal of Pheu Thai Party's Paetongtarn Shinawatra in August 2025. Legal rulings have also prompted the dissolution of political parties and governments, with the monarch retaining limited constitutional powers such as granting assent to bills and dissolving parliaments.

Thailand also suffers from high levels of corruption and weak rule of law, and international organizations have accused the government of violating human rights on multiple occasions.

Corruption
 3.00

Corruption poses a moderate risk. Regulatory frameworks are present with fair levels of enforcement. Public institutions have a moderate level of transparency. Corruption has been reported in both public and private sectors, including among the political elite. Legal and political developments related to corruption have continued to affect public trust and enforcement.

Government Stability
 3.50

Thailand is a constitutional monarchy with the king serving as the head of state and a democratically elected government. The country's political stability has been undermined by coups, as well as military interference and restrictions on opposition political parties undermining multiple elections. Court rulings have also ousted five prime ministers since 2007.

A military-royalist establishment, aligned with the judiciary and influential corporations, continues to wield significant control in Thailand. Despite winning the majority of parliament seats in the 2023 general election, the anti-establishment and progressive Move Forward Party (MFP) was unable to form the government due to opposition from conservative lawmakers allied with the military. The Thai Constitutional Court later ordered the dissolution of the MFP in August 2024 for its poll promise of amending laws criminalizing criticism of the monarchy, forcing members to regroup as The People's Party.

After MFP's attempts to form the government were blocked, the Pheu Thai Party (PTP), which is linked to the deposed former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, returned to power as the ruling party for the first time since being ousted in a military coup in 2014. Ironically, the PTP formed a coalition government with proxy parties linked to the military junta. Thaksin's daughter, Paetongtarn Shinawatra, became prime minister in late 2024. However, the Constitutional Court dismissed Paetongtarn in August 2025 for ethical violations relating to a leaked phone call with former Cambodian leader Hun Sen, where she allegedly criticized a top Thai military commander.

On Sept. 7, 2025, Anutin Charnvirakul took office as prime minister, becoming the third prime minister in two years. The Bhumjaithai Party leader was elected by parliament with majority People's Party support on the condition that the House of Representatives is dissolved within four months for a fresh election, and a constitutional referendum is held over amending the 2017 military-drafted Constitution.

King Maha Vajiralongkorn's ascension to the throne, following the death of his father, who enjoyed wider popularity, has brought some uncertainty. The monarchy retains significant political power, with the military and aligned groups often citing the need to protect the monarchy when justifying the suppression of opposition parties.

Rule of Law

 3.50

Thailand's rule of law is considered weak due to the government's abuse of power in some areas, as well as widespread corruption and nepotism, especially among high-ranking military officials. The use of lese majeste laws to suppress dissent and the arbitrary detention of political activists also remain a concern. While the incumbent Pheu Thai Party has vowed to reform the judiciary, combat corruption, and protect human rights, it remains to be seen if the party will be able to overcome resistance from the military.

Additionally, the ongoing separatist insurgency has undermined the rule of law in the Deep South. Militant groups are known to contest the state's authority in the predominantly Muslim region, carrying out attacks on security personnel and installations, religious figures, teachers and schools, as well as civilians believed to be corroborating with the Thai government.

Sanctions

 1.00

There are currently no international sanctions imposed on the Thai government. However, the UN and foreign governments, including the US, have raised concerns over allegations of human rights abuses.

Legal

Unrated

Visitors to Thailand are subject to local laws, which may not mirror, either in whole or in part, those of their home country. Those deemed to be in violation, even unknowingly, may be fined, detained, imprisoned, temporarily or permanently expelled, or tried *in absentia* depending on the nature of the offense. Home-country consular officers are typically systematically informed of a detention and permitted to provide support services to their detained citizens. When there is no treaty in force, notification and access depend on whether the two countries have direct or

indirect diplomatic relations. Consular officers cannot interfere with local judicial proceedings, nor provide legal advice or representation at trial, and are unable to pay legal fees or fines with government funds. The status of dual nationals will be determined by local officials, with all attendant ramifications for access and support.

Emergency Contacts

● Unrated

Emergency Contacts

Ambulance 1669

Fire 199

Police 191 / 1155

Embassies and Consulates

● Unrated

German Embassy

Address 9 South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120

Phone +66 2 287 9000

Email info@bangkok.diplo.de

Web site <https://www.bangkok.diplo.de>

Canadian Embassy

Address 15th Floor, Abdulrahim Place, 990 Rama IV Road, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500

Phone +66 2 646 4300

Email bangkok@international.gc.ca

Web site <https://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/thailand-thailande>

British Embassy

Address AIA Sathorn Tower, Floor 12A, 11/1 South Sathorn Road, Sathorn, Bangkok 10120

Phone +66 2 305 8333

Web site <https://www.gov.uk/world/organisations/british-embassy-bangkok>

United States Embassy

Address 95 Wireless Road, Bangkok 10330

Phone +66 2 205 4000

Email acsbkk@state.gov

Web site <https://th.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulate/bangkok/>

Australian Embassy

Address 181 Soi ArunMcKinnon, Wireless Road, Lumpini Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330

Phone +66 2 344 6300

Email austembassy.bangkok@dfat.gov.au; consular.bangkok@dfat.gov.au

Web site <https://www.thailand.embassy.gov.au>

French Embassy

Address 35 Rue de Brest, Charoen Krung Soi 36, Charoen Krung Road, Bang Rak, Bangkok 10500

Phone +66 2 657 5100/+66 2 627 2100

Email registre.bangkok-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Web site <https://th.ambafrance.org/>

British Honorary Consulate in Chiang Mai

Address 198 Bamrungrat Road, Mueang District, Chiang Mai 50000

Phone +66 53 263 015

Entry/Exit

Unrated

Travelers can obtain specific information about visas and other entry-exit requirements at <https://entry-exit.crisis24horizon.com>.

Pre-Departure

Unrated

- Plan your itinerary beforehand, and refer to all relevant advisories pertaining to specific areas you are visiting. Understand entry requirements, local laws, notable events during your stay, and key cultural aspects.
- Check if you need any vaccinations or medical precautions before traveling. Carry any necessary medications and have a basic understanding of local healthcare facilities and endemic diseases.
- Register with your embassy before travel. Save local emergency numbers and contact information for your country's embassy or consulate in case you need assistance. Pack according to the risk level of the areas you intend to visit, including any ongoing shortages of essential items or precedence of severe weather or security situations limiting outdoor movement. Purchase comprehensive travel insurance that covers medical emergencies, trip cancellations, and other unexpected events.
- Ensure you have the required visas and documentation. Keep photocopies of important documents in a separate place from the originals. Ensure you comply with customs rules, including limits on foreign currency and items such as narcotics.
- Download translation apps or language guides to help with communication. Be mindful that security services may not be fluent in English or non-native languages, especially outside cities. Contact a local guide or a representative from your consulate to minimize miscommunication with local officials
- Thailand has a varied security environment. Travelers should undertake a pre-travel risk assessment and should be aware that issues relating to armed conflict and terrorism have been reported in the Deep South. Travel to this region will require additional security measures.

On Arrival

Unrated

There are no significant measures that need to be undertaken on arrival into Thailand. However, travelers should carry a copy of their travel documents at all times.

In Transit

● Unrated

Public transport is generally safe. Rail travel is also reasonably safe and comfortable, but not efficient in terms of time.

Travelers should avoid using street taxis, but utilize pre-booked taxis or locally vetted transport providers. Travelers should establish the formal identification of the driver before commencing any trip.

At Your Hotel

● Unrated

Travelers should stay at a reputable hotel with good standards of international-level security.

On arrival at the hotel, ensure the driver stays on site until your check-in has been confirmed. Similarly before departing to the airport when leaving the hotel, ensure your driver waits until your flight check-in is confirmed.

During the typhoon season, travelers should prepare an emergency kit of bottled water, non-perishable food items, a battery-powered radio, medications that are taken regularly, and vital travel documents.

In the Street

● Unrated

Travelers should be aware of the national culture and behavioral expectations. Thailand has a strict lese majeste law, and perceived insults to the monarchy, whether intended or not, can result in prolonged detainment and jail sentences. Authorities have broad discretion in what constitutes a violation of this law, and it has been increasingly enforced since the military took power in 2014, in what critics say are part of efforts to stifle dissent. There have also been reports of individuals, including foreign nationals, being arrested for sharing social media posts deemed as showing Thailand in a negative light.

There are no legal restrictions on consensual same-sex relations in Thailand, and progress has been made in terms of stronger advocacy efforts and protection of LGBT rights. There are many venues and events catering to the community, especially in major urban centers such as Bangkok.

Travelers should keep a low profile, and should not become involved in local political issues and avoid discussing politically sensitive topics in public. Travelers should be aware that photographing government buildings or military facilities may result in detention by authorities.

Travelers should avoid any demonstrations, protests and rallies, which may attract security forces and law enforcement officers and present a dynamic and volatile environment.

Travelers should avoid overt displays of wealth and dress discreetly and appropriately to the environment. Do not display money, jewelry or valuables and keep a low profile.

Travelers should use only small denominations of the local currency, and keep large amounts of cash and cards in a separate place on your person. Reduce the contents of your wallet or purse contents, particularly cards which may denote affiliations, memberships and accounts. Do not use credit or debit cards unless absolutely necessary and then only at respected, well-known retail and service establishments.

Travelers should ensure that their mobile phone is carried with sufficient battery life and programmed with appropriate emergency numbers. Travelers should also carry an ID card or passport and emergency medical information.

Travelers should be aware of their location and surroundings. Avoid high-crime areas and of walking through dimly lit streets after dark. Travelers should know routes and carry a map if necessary, but keep it concealed.

In crowded situations, travelers should be aware of jostling as this may be a ploy for pick-pockets. Travelers should also be aware of people loitering, and also that attackers may first pass their victim to attack from behind.

Travelers should ignore verbal 'bait' from passers-by, do not get into an argument and avoid eye contact with strangers.

Culture

Unrated

Conducting Business - Thailand

Standard Hours of Operation

Business: Monday-Friday, 0800-1700

Government: Monday-Friday, 0800-1200 and 1300-1600

Banking: Monday-Friday, 0830-1530

Business attire is generally semi-formal. For men, conservative business suits are appropriate. For women, conservative dresses or business suits with knee-length skirts are appropriate.

Appointments are best scheduled Monday-Friday between 0800-1500. Arriving on time to meetings or social engagements is a common practice. Informal or personal discussions are common. Scheduled meetings will typically end on time. If a meeting includes dining out, the host offers to pay the check. Alcohol taken during lunch meetings is considered inappropriate. Alcohol during dinner meetings is considered normal.

Thai and English are commonly used for business purposes. Attempts by visitors to use phrases in these languages are well-received and expected. Business cards are widely used and are presented using the right hand. Always use the honorific titles of "Khun" or "Kru" before the first name of a high-ranking male or female until the host indicates that using first names is appropriate. Addressing the host according to their official title is seen as a sign of respect. When beginning or ending a business meeting, address participants with the *wai* greeting: The greeter gives a slight bow while raising both hands and connecting the palms with the fingers pointed upward in a "praying" gesture. The person of the lowest status or youngest age performs the wai greeting first. Handshakes may also occur after the wai is performed.

Gestures

Unrated

Business cards are widely used and are presented using both hands.

In Thailand people will place their palms against each other in a prayer position and bow slightly when greeting someone. The person in a lower position will greet first and the senior ranked person will then greet back. If you are a foreigner wait until someone from Thailand does this greeting before greeting them in this manner.

Avoid using the following gestures or habits, as they are deemed offensive or insulting:

- Touching and passing things over someone's head.
- Do not point at someone with your index finger.
- Using your feet to point at someone.
- Do not show someone the bottom of your feet.
- Use your left hand to receive and give things to someone.

Religions

Unrated

Buddhist 92.5%, Muslim 5.4%, and Christian 1.2%

Ethnicities

● Unrated

Thai 95.9%, Burmese 2%, other 1.3%

Significant Dates

● Unrated

2026 Significant Dates

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Feb. 8	General Election
March 3	Makha Bucha Day
April 6	Chakri Memorial Day
April 13-15	Songkran Festival (Thai New Year)
May 1	National Labor Day
May 4	Coronation Day
May 31	Visakha Bucha Day (Buddha Day
June 1	Visakha Bucha Day (observed)
June 3	HM Queen Suthida's Birthday
July 28	HM the King Vajiralongkorn's Birthday
July 29	Asanha Bucha (Start of Buddhist Lent)
Aug. 12	HM Queen Sirikit the Queen Mother's Birthday
Oct. 13	King Bhumibol Adulyadej Memorial Day
Oct. 23	Chulalongkorn Memorial Day
Dec. 5	King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Holiday, Father's Day
Dec. 7	King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Holiday, Father's Day (observed)
Dec. 10	Constitution Day
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve

Financial

Unrated

Financial systems can differ considerably by jurisdiction. Acceptance of cash, debit, and credit cards also varies across the country. Some locations may only accept cash due to the absence of card-processing machines. Banks or legal money changers typically offer the official exchange rates. While the import and export of both local and foreign currency are authorized, sums should not exceed the amount declared upon arrival.

Currency

● Unrated

Currency Name/Code

The official currency of Thailand is the Thai baht (THB). One baht is made up of 100 satang. Other currencies are generally not accepted for transactions.

Currency Convertibility

Banks or legal money-changers offer the best exchange rates in Thailand. Larger banks may offer the best exchange rates, on average. Although black market money-changers may be common in Thailand, they are illegal. Thailand forbids foreigners from exiting with local currency in amounts greater than THB 50,000 per person and THB 100,000 per family.

Credit Card

● Unrated

Major credit cards are widely accepted in shops, restaurants, and hotels.

Taxes and Tipping

● Unrated

It is not customary to tip taxi drivers; there may be a service charge on the bill. It is customary to tip hotel personnel who provide personal services. Wait staff in restaurants appreciate a 10-percent tip, particularly if there is no service charge on the bill.

Bank and ATM

● Unrated

ATM Availability

Automated teller machines are widely available in major cities. Always choose a machine located in a secure area, preferably within hotels or other populated, well-lit locations.

Bank Availability

Banking hours are generally Monday through Friday 0830-1530. Cash advances on major credit cards issued by foreign banks are permitted.

LGBTQ Security

2.00 - Low

The security threat environment in Thailand is low for members of the LGBTQ community and has improved following the legalization of marriage equality in 2025 and existing anti#discrimination protections. While key gaps persist such as around legal gender recognition and uneven provincial practice, the state and large urban centers generally provide an enabling environment compared with most of Southeast Asia. [1][2][3]

LGBTQ Legal Environment

● 2.00

The legal environment poses a low threat. The Marriage Equality Act took effect in January 2025, granting same#sex couples full marital rights—including inheritance, medical decision#making and adoption—through gender#neutral revisions to the Civil and Commercial Code. Thailand also enforces the Gender Equality Act B.E. 2558 (2015), which prohibits unfair gender#based discrimination and has been used to challenge SOGIESC#based exclusion. At the same time, Thailand does not yet provide comprehensive legal gender recognition; a Gender Recognition Bill has been debated but remains pending, leaving many transgender and intersex people to navigate inconsistent document rules. [1][2][4][5][6]

LGBTQ Enforcement

● 2.00

The enforcement environment poses a low threat. Interior Ministry and municipal offices have implemented the marriage law nationwide and have processed high volumes of registrations without systemic obstruction. Authorities generally permit peaceful LGBTQ expression, and dedicated agencies adjudicate claims of unfair gender discrimination. Where gaps appear, they usually stem from administrative practice or inconsistent awareness among local officials rather than deliberate obstruction, though remedies can be slow. [2][3][5]

LGBTQ Social Environment 2.00

The social environment poses a moderate threat that is trending better in urban hubs. Thailand's long-standing, visible LGBTQ culture coexists with conservative institutions and uneven acceptance outside major cities. Corporate and municipal support has expanded, but transgender and intersex individuals still report barriers in employment, schooling, and healthcare tied to the lack of legal gender recognition. Continued legislative movement on gender recognition would likely narrow these gaps. [5][6][7]

Active Alerts

No Alerts

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