

Thailand's Healthcare Industry

Thailand's healthcare industry is gaining global recognition with its performance in the success of therapeutics and medical on COVID-19, showcasing the capability of Thailand's healthcare and medical industry. However, even before that, Thailand was already the largest medical tourism destination of its region and one of the most popular in the world with more than 2 million medical tourists finding their way to the country per year.

It has been the government policy since 2003 to promote Thailand as a global medical hub. This policy has stimulated the healthcare business, leading to the continued growth of medical tourism. Thai private hospitals have accelerated their developments to improve efficiency. Thailand has been widely accepted internationally as one of the global medical tourism destinations, with the comparative advantage in terms of services and treatment efficiency which is among the top of the world, while the costs are much more reasonable compared to other countries with the same standards of treatment.



Thailand has been ranking among the World's Best Healthcare Industry

Thailand: An Ideal Destination for Medical Tourism

High-quality medical care, cost-effectiveness and lower cost of living that is great for long-stay patients. This is also backed by the government which has an effort to turn the country into a “world medical hub”.



#4 in the world
with **61** medical facilities have been certified
with **Joint Commission International (JCI)**

Top 5



According to the 2019 data from [worldsbesthospitals.net](https://www.worldsbesthospitals.net), one private hospital in Thailand is among **the top 5 of the world's best hospitals** for medical tourism.

#6

CEOWORLD Magazine

CEOWORLD Magazine ranks **Thailand the 6th in terms of the best** medical system, following Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, Russia, and Denmark.

#8

NUMBEO

According to the 2020 data from Numbeo, a website with the largest database on costs of living and healthcare system, **Thailand was ranked the 8th in terms of world's best healthcare systems.**




In line with the trend of “medical tourism” which is popular among tourists from around the world, the Global Wellness Institute has estimated that the market for medical tourism in Asia is set to grow at the rate of 13% a year. Medical services attract foreigners, include aesthetics, gender affirmation surgeries, osteopathy, cardiovascular, fertility treatment, and dentistry. Besides this, Thailand aims to enhance the standards of Thai massage for it to become a World Heritage and create a branding for Thailand as the Global Top of Mind Destination on Medical and Wellness. As people place more importance on looking after their health, private hospitals have accelerated their proactive marketing strategy on comprehensive health and wellness centers such as BDMS Wellness Clinic (Bangkok Hospital Group), VitalLife Scientific Wellness Center (Bumrungrad Hospital Group), and Medical City (Thonburi Hospital Group). The above factors will help support the long-term growth of the market for Thai medical tourism.



In addition, to that, Thai government prescribes the Medical Industry as part of the New Targeted S-Curve Industries. The government will provide benefits including tax reduction to attract investors to take part in several activities including the establishment of bases for research and production of medicines and medical innovations, providing private hospitals with benefits from lower costs of factors of the production which will be lower than the imported materials. International competitiveness will increase. Moreover, being part of the new S-Curve will strengthen the already growing medical tourism sector. Recently, the government has accelerated its processes of issuing more investment incentives to accommodate the growing need for medical products. The government has also endorsed the establishment of a global hub on genomics medicine and encouraged the private sector in industrial estates to open hospitals to cope with the increasing demand of the people who live in industrial estates.



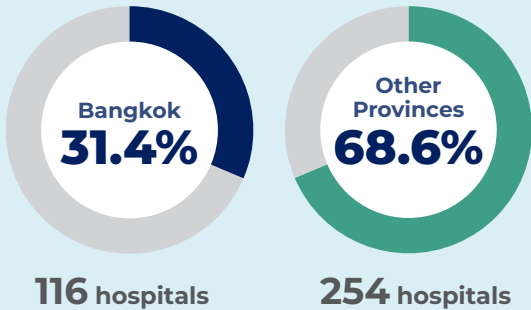
Data Source: Krungsri Bank Research Center: Private Hospital

 <https://www.krungsri.com/th/research/industry/industry-outlook/Services/Private-Hospitals/IO/io-Private-Hospitals>

Statistics of Private Hospitals in Thailand

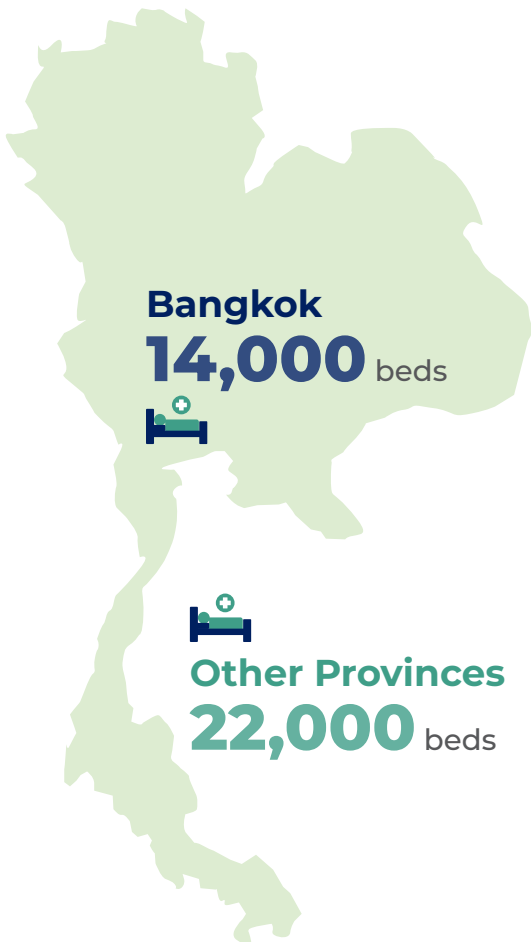


At present, there are 370 private hospitals.



Private hospitals can be divided into 3 categories in accordance with their sizes which are measured by the number of beds, signifying their service capabilities.

Number of Hospital Beds
36,000 beds



Large Hospitals (at least 250 beds)



22 hospitals
(5.8% of the total number of private hospitals)



7,162 beds
(19.9% of the total number of beds)

The majority of hospitals are in Bangkok and the central region (90%) which are the areas with a high population who have medium-high purchasing power.

Medium Hospitals (31 - 249 beds)



255 hospitals
(67.5% of the total number of private hospitals)



27,069 beds
(75.2% of the total number of beds)

Small Hospitals (1 - 30 beds)



101 hospitals
(26.7% of the total number of private hospitals)

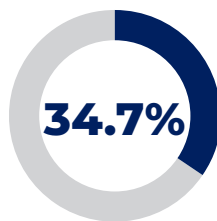


1,766 beds
(4.9% of the total number of beds)

Medical Facilities in Thailand

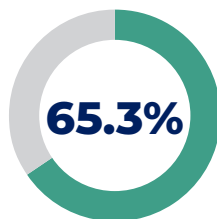


At present, there are **38,512** facilities.



Public Medical Facilities 13,364

such as Public Health Centers, District Public Health Offices, Community Hospitals, and General Hospitals



Private Medical Facilities 25,148

including private hospitals and private clinics

Size and Capabilities to Provide Medical Services



98.3%

Primary Medical Facilities

37,857 facilities

These include over **9,800** public health centers and subdistrict health promoting hospitals and approximately **24,800** private clinics.

1.7%

Secondary and Tertiary Medical Facilities

664 facilities

Among these, **294** facilities (**0.7%**) are hospitals under the responsibility of the Ministry of Public Health, local governments, state enterprises, and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. The rest **370** facilities (**0.9%**) are private hospitals.

