

SITUATION OF COVID-19 INFECTION AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES IN THAILAND

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SITUATION OF COVID-19 IN THAILAND

(SOURCE: DDC, DATE: 25 SEPT. 2020)

- Total 3,519 (5.29/100,000 Pop.)
- New cases (24 Hrs.) 3
- Domestic infection 0 (123 Days except 1 cases in mid Sept.)
- Fully recovery 3,360 (95.48%)
- Death 59 (1.68%, 116 Days)
- Aged between 20-59 Yrs. 2,933 (83.6%)

AIMS

- To describe the situation of the COVID-19 infection among the working population in the country
- To describe currently implemented preventive and control measures

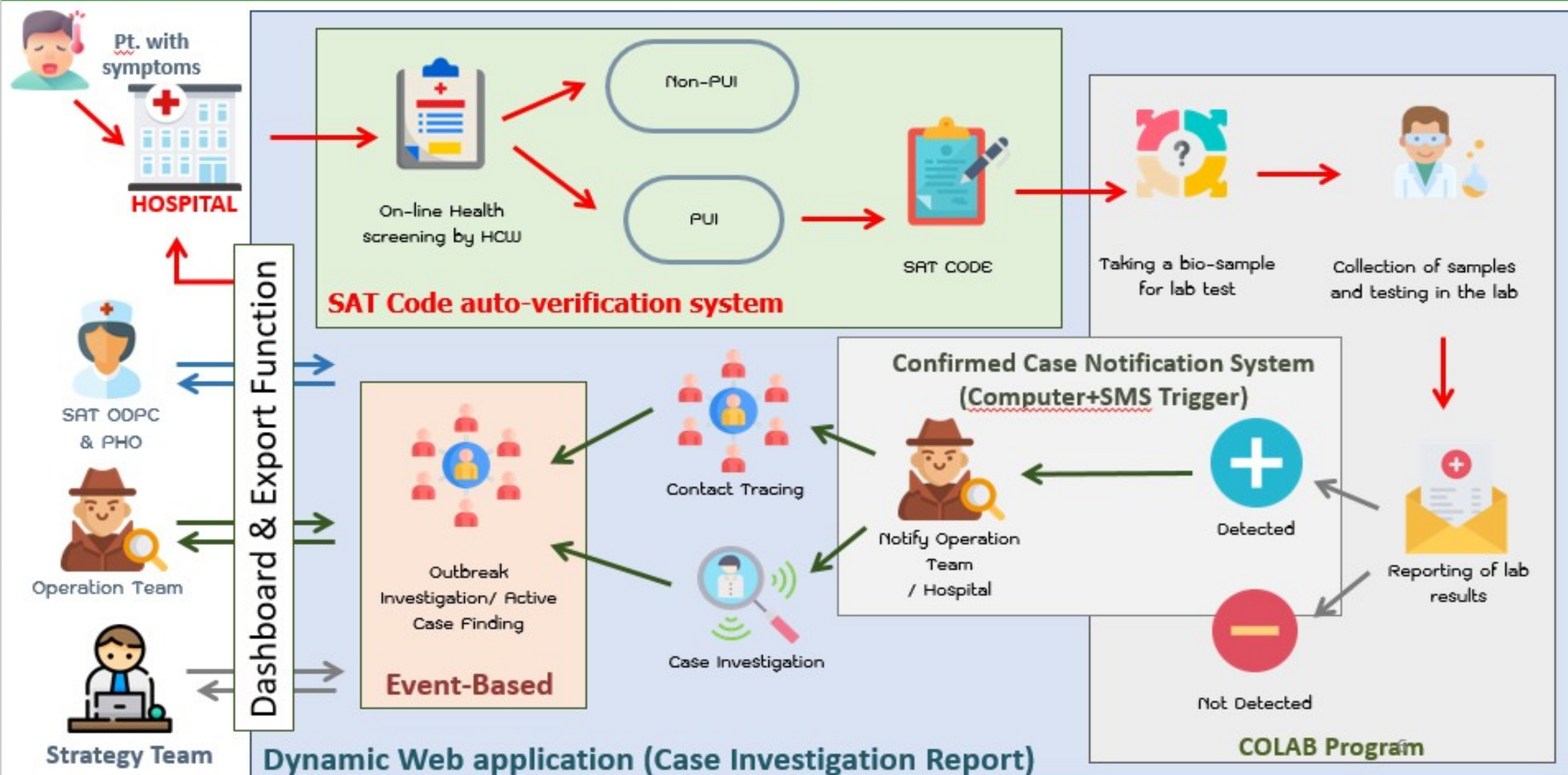
METHODS

1. The data from the Situation Awareness Team and the Operation Team under DD C were collected and analyzed in September 2020.

Case definition of work-related COVID-19 infection

- A patient or a person with +ve test for COVID-19
- Still working or having a job during January – now
- Having history of COVID-19 exposure at work:
 - Having history of contacting co-worker/customer with COVID-19 infection
 - Having history of working with or giving service to foreign customer
 - No history of COVID-19 infection among his/her family members

DDC-COVID Reporting System Workflow



METHODS

1. The data from the Situation Awareness Team and the Operation Team under DDC were collected and analyzed in September 2020.
2. The Monitoring and Evaluation Team under DDC conducted a rapid survey to identify any measures enterprises had implemented to protect their employees from the disease
 - The checklists were applied from the ILO guideline (Ref).
 - The survey was conducted via an on-line questionnaire using Google Form and sent to enterprises and the network of safety officers during 13-17 April 2020

Ref: 1) Kawakami T. Protecting Your Employees and Business from Pandemic Human Influenza: Action manual for small and medium-sized enterprises. Avian and Human Influenza in the Workplace (Thailand) Project. Subregional Office for East Asia. International Labour Organization. 2009.

RESULTS (1)

- Accumulative Total No. 3,519 cases
- Total No. of domestic infection 2,445 cases
- No. of domestic cases in working population 2,258 (92.4%)
- No. of domestic work-related cases 484 (21.4%)
- Total No. of infection from abroad 1,074 cases
- No. of Thai cases (abroad) in working population 771 (71.8%)
- The highest No. of Thai cases from abroad were students 251 (23.4%)

PROPORTION OF CASES FROM DOMESTIC INFECTION BY OCCUPATIONS

Occupations	No. (%)
General freelance/temporary jobs	332 (14.7%)
Trade/business	282 (12.5%)
Factory employees	236 (10.5%)
Entertainment sector e.g. pubs/bars	197 (8.7%)
Government officers	153 (6.8%)
Healthcare Workers (HCW)	118 (5.2%)
Others	438 (19.4%)
No data	502 (22.2%)
Total	2,258 (100%)

TOP 10 OCCUPATIONS WITH HIGH NUMBER OF WORK –RELATED INFECTION (TOTAL NO. OF CASES=484)

Occupations	No. of cases (%)
Entertainment sector e.g. pubs/bars	122 (25.2%)
HCW	92 (19.0%)
General freelance/temporary jobs	85 (17.6%)
Factory employees	31 (6.4%)
Drivers (taxi, bus, etc.)	29 (6.0%)
Hotel staff	26 (5.4%)
Government officers	24 (4.9%)
Trade/business	19 (3.9%)
Restaurant staff	14 (2.9%)
Airport staff	11 (2.3%)

TOP 10 OCCUPATIONS WITH HIGH PROPORTION OF WORK-RELATED COVID-19 INFECTION

Occupations	No. of cases	No. of work-related cases	% of infection from work
Drivers (taxi, bus, etc.)	30	29	96.7
Masseurs	11	10	90.9
Flight attendants	8	7	87.5
Priest (all religions)	5	4	80.0
Airport staff	14	11	78.6
HCW	118	92	78.0
Tourist guidance	12	9	75.0
Hotel staff	40	26	65.0
Restaurant staff	22	14	63.6
Entertainment sectors	197	122	61.9

PROPORTION OF THAI CASES FROM ABROAD BY OCCUPATIONS

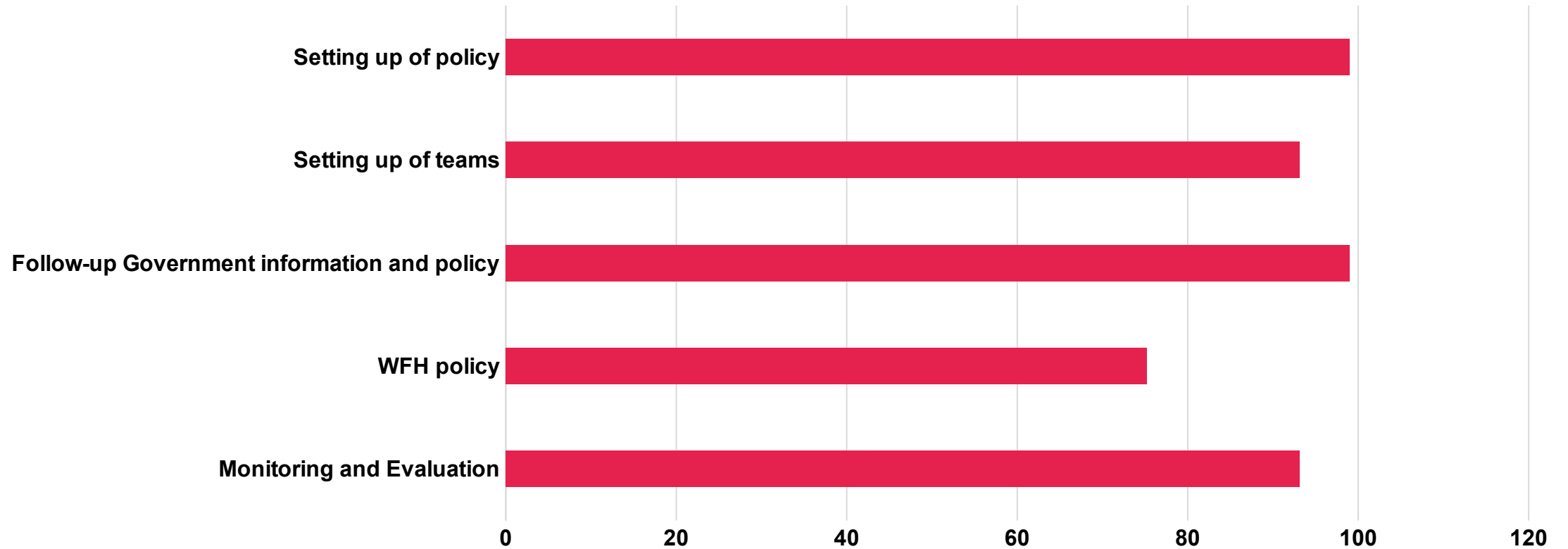
Occupations	No. of cases (%)
General freelance/temporary jobs	172 (22.3%)
Trade/business	98 (12.7%)
Factory employees	81 (10.5%)
Farmers	57 (7.4%)
Housemaids	43 (5.6%)
Masseurs	39 (5.0%)
Government officers	20 (2.6%)
Flight attendants	10 (1.3%)
Others	83 (10.8%)
No data	168 (21.8%)
Total	771 (100%)

RESULTS (2): CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTED PREVENTIVE AND CONTROL MEASURES IN ENTERPRISES

- **No. of respondents 101**
- **Position of respondents:**
 - **Safety officers 59 (58.4%)**
 - **Human resource managers 7 (6.9%)**
 - **Managers 11 (10.9%)**
 - **Others 24 (23.8%)**
- **Size of enterprises (No. of employees)**
 - **< 50 employees 8 (7.9%)**
 - **50-200 employees 38 (37.6%)**
 - **200-1,000 employees 38 (37.6%)**
 - **>1,000 employees 17 (16.8%)**

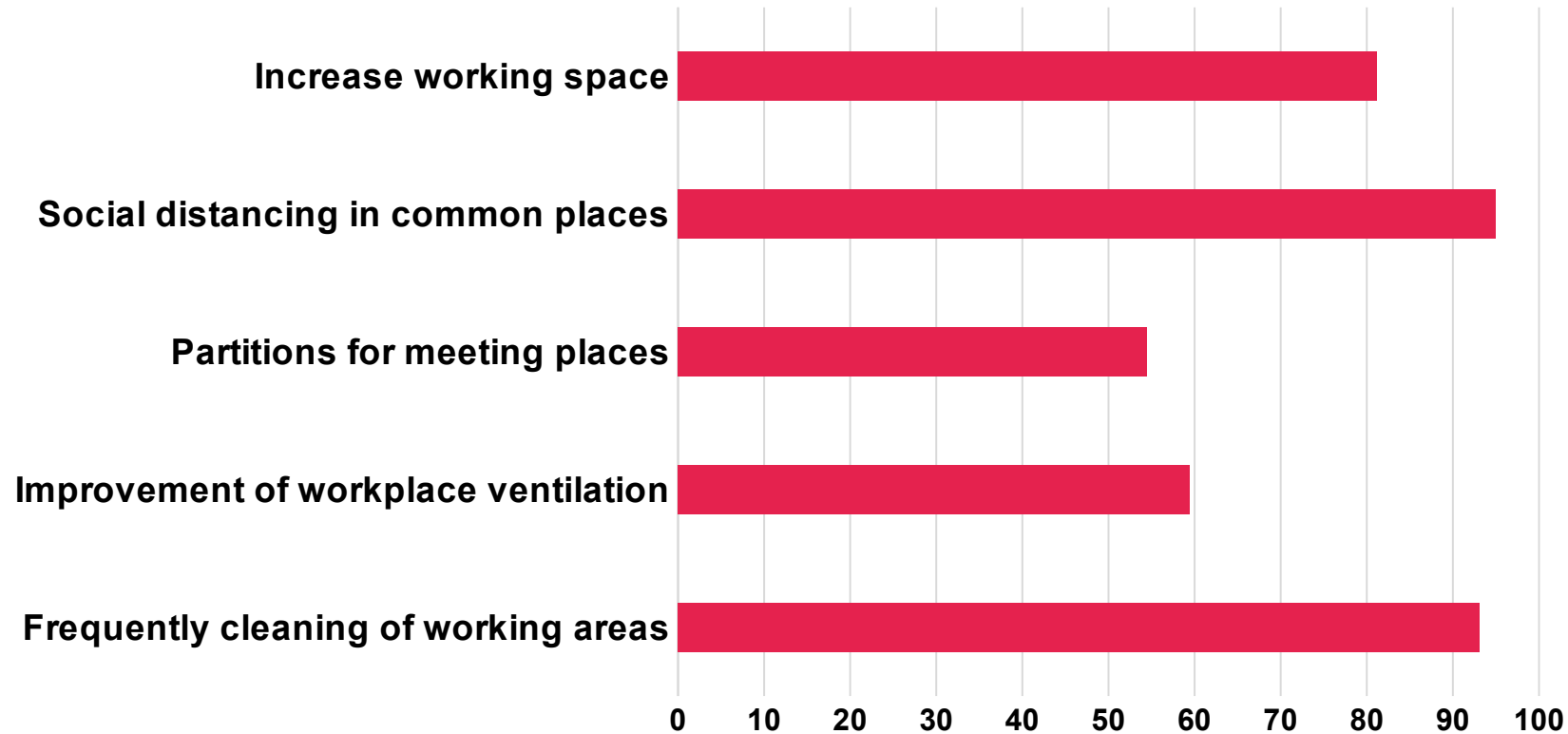
IMPLEMENTED MEASURES: POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Percentage of enterprises with implemented activities



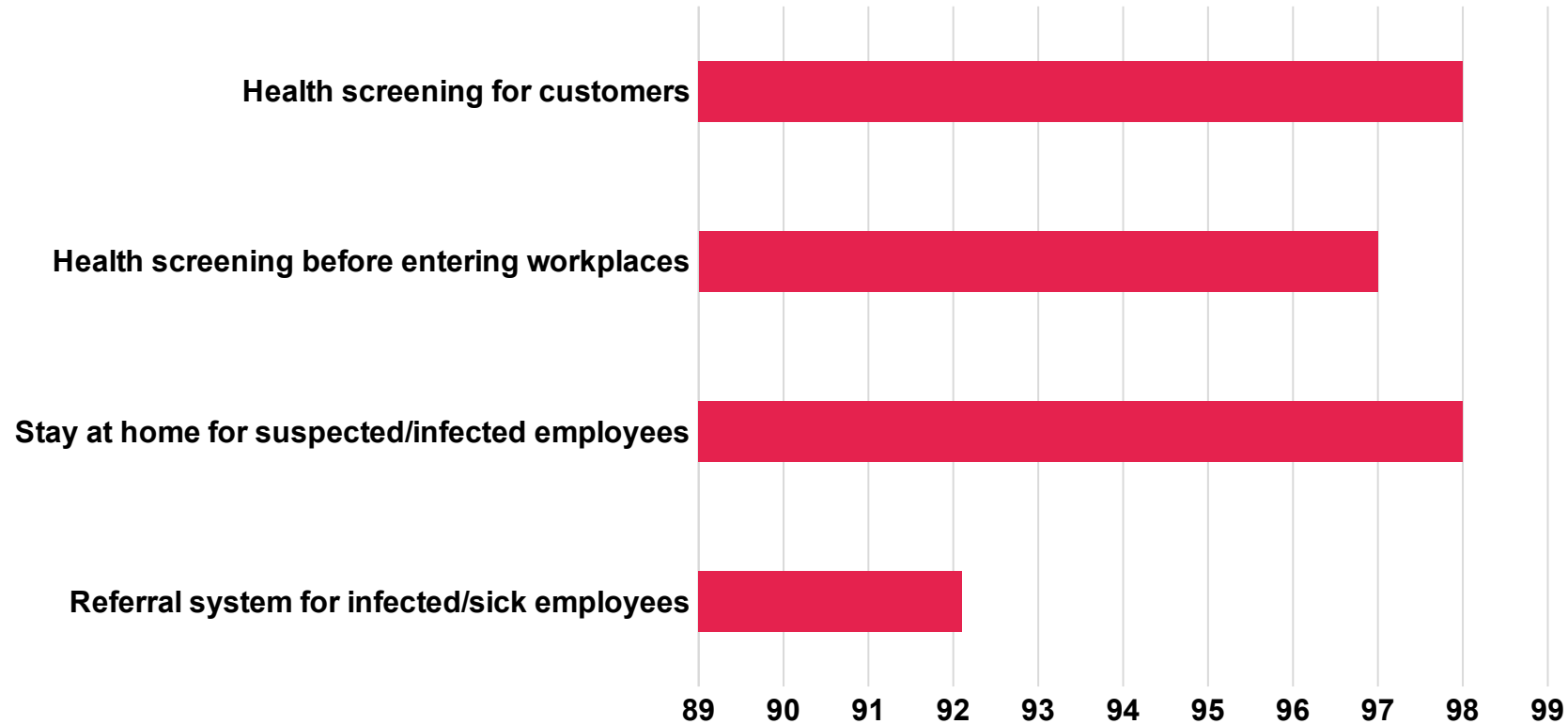
IMPLEMENTED MEASURES: WORK AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION

Percentage of enterprises with implemented activities



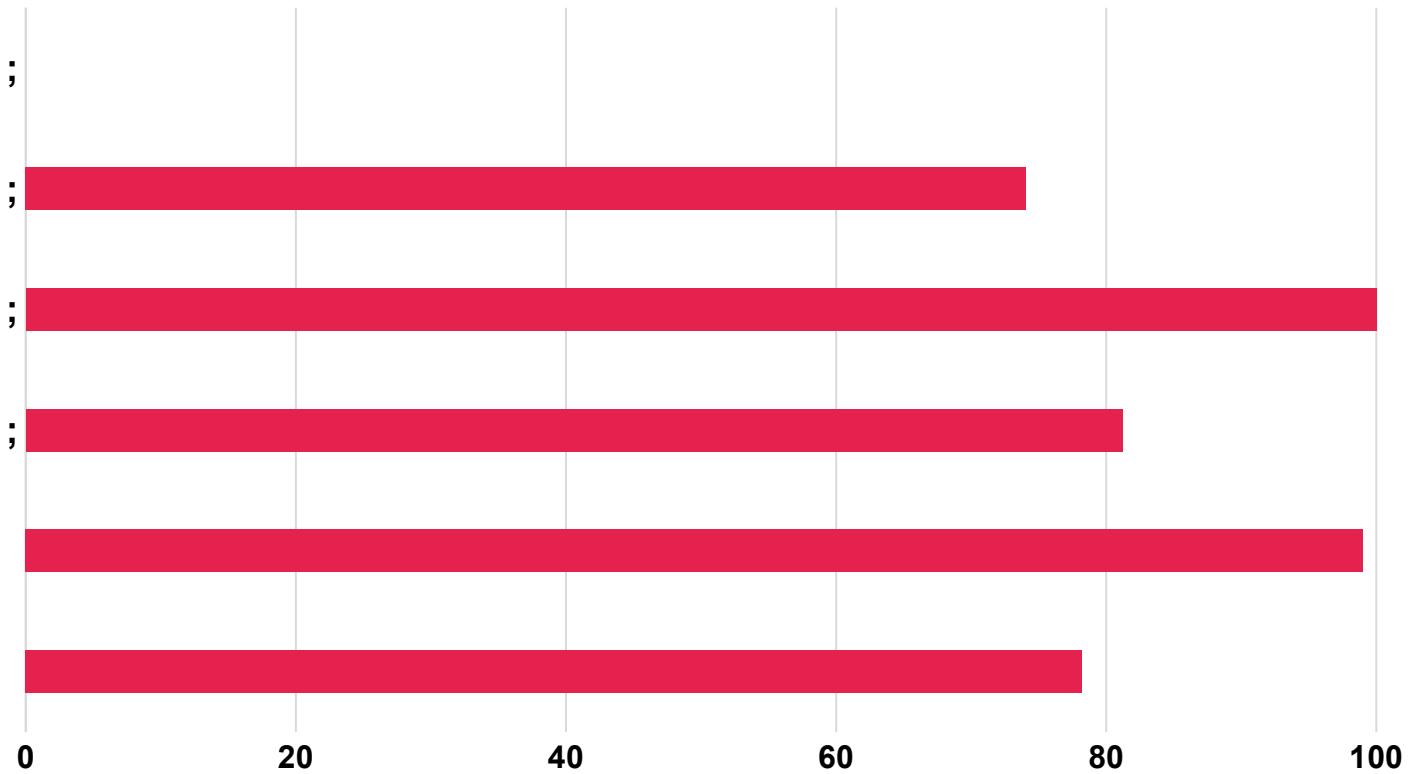
IMPLEMENTED MEASURES: HEALTH SCREENING AND SURVEILLANCE

Percentage of enterprises with implemented activities



IMPLEMENTED MEASURES: COMMUNICATION, TRAINING, PPE, AND ETC.

Percentage of enterprises with implemented activities



120

DISCUSSIONS

Results (1):

- Most of cases came from PUI, outbreak investigation and specific active case finding
- Results for each occupation showed only proportion
- No objective means to confirm “occupational” exposure

Results (2):

- Bias from respondents
- No outcomes for effectiveness or efficiency of implemented measures

CONCLUSIONS

- Most of COVID-19 infection cases are among working population in Thailand
- High risk occupations include working with suspected/confirmed case, contacting with foreigners at work, and working in high density of people
- Prompt policy and implementation of several preventive and control measures are very important for disease protection