

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL CASES

HIGHLIGHTS

- From April 2012 till May 2023, a total of 2604 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) were reported globally, with 936 associated deaths at a case-fatality ratio (CFR) of 36%. The majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia, with 2196 cases and 855 related deaths (CFR: 39%).
- During the month of May 2023, no new cases were reported.
- The demographic and epidemiological characteristics of reported cases do not show any significant differences when compared with the same corresponding period between 2016 and 2023.
- Among primary cases, 50–59 year-olds are at the highest risk for acquiring infection and among secondary cases the 30–39 year-olds are at the highest risk. Among both primary and secondary cases, CFR is higher within the age group of 70–79 years-olds.

*Disclaimer: Data are subject to change over time due to lag in reporting.

SUMMARY



2604
Laboratory-confirmed cases reported since April 2012



936
Deaths reported since April 2012



0
New cases



12
Countries reported cases since April 2012 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region



27
Countries reported cases globally

Table 1. Number of MERS cases in the Eastern Mediterranean Region by month and outcome in 2023

2023	Survived	Died
January	0	1
February	0	0
March	0	0
April	0	0
May	0	0
Total	0	1

Table 2. Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported globally between December 2017 – May 2018 and December 2022 – May 2023

Characteristic	Dec 17 - May 18	Dec 18 - May 19	Dec 19 - May 20	Dec 20 - May 21	Dec 21 - May 22	Dec 22 - May 23
Number	156	160	76	12	5	3
Median age in years	48	51	56	52	49	83
Gender (% male)	69	76	82	75	80	100
% of Primary Cases	51	52	74	83	100	67
% of Secondary cases	49	48	26	17	0	0
(%) of Unknown Contact History	0	0	0	0	0	33
% of HCW	25	14	11	18	0	0
% Fatal	23	28	33	42	40	33

Fig. 1. Distribution of MERS reported cases from Eastern Mediterranean Region by week of onset, June 2012 – May 2023

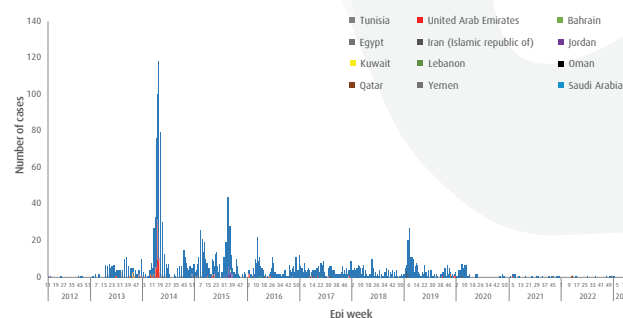
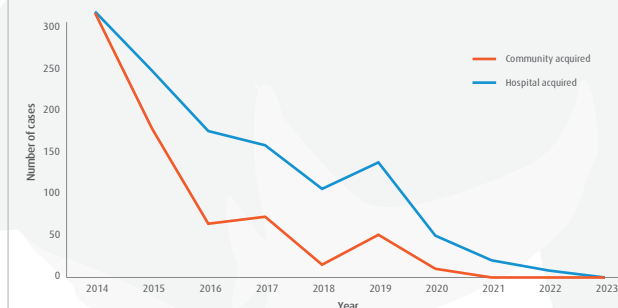


Fig. 2. Community versus hospital acquired MERS cases in Eastern Mediterranean Region, January 2014 – May 2023



KSA CASES

Fig. 3. MERS cases per week of onset in Saudi Arabia, June 2012 – May 2023

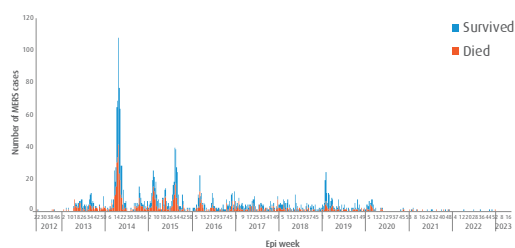


Fig. 4. Cases of MERS in healthcare workers reported from Saudi Arabia, January 2013 – May 2023

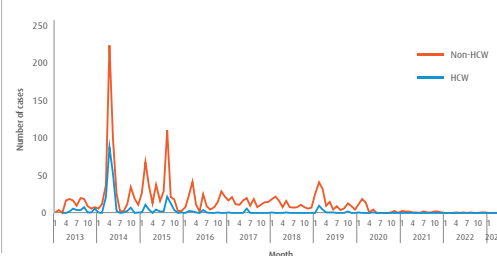


Fig. 5. Age and fatality distribution of primary and secondary cases of MERS reported from Saudi Arabia June 2012 – May 2023

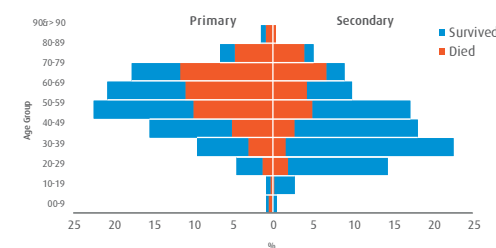


Table 3. Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Saudi Arabia, June 2012 - May 2023

Type of case	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
Primary	4	71	292	234	163	148	102	128	49	18	5	1	1215
Secondary	1	91	371	219	85	88	39	77	10	0	0	0	981
Grand Total	5	162	663	453	248	236	141	205	59	18	5	1	2196