

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL CASES

HIGHLIGHTS

- From April 2012 to date, a total of 2609 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) were reported globally, with 939 associated deaths at a case-fatality ratio (CFR) of 36%. The majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia, with 2200 cases and 858 related deaths (CFR: 39%).
- During the month of December 2023, one case from October was retrospectively 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-old.

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

SUMMARY



2609
Laboratory-confirmed cases reported since April 2012



939
Deaths reported since April 2012



1
Newly reported 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
June	1	0
July	0	0
August	0	0
September	2	1
October	0	1
November	0	0
December	0	0
Total	3	3

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

Characteristic	July 18 - Dec 18	July 19 - Dec 19	July 20 - Dec 20	July 21 - Dec 21	July 22 - Dec 22	July 23 - Dec 23
Number	208	123	16	15	6	4
Median age in years	53	56	52	60	57	73
Gender (% male)	79	82	81	93	100	50
% of Primary Cases	58	80	88	100	67	100
% of Secondary cases	42	20	12	0	0	0
(%) of Unknown Contact History	0	0	0	0	33	0
% of HCW	10	9	13	0	0	0
% Fatal	28	32	44	33	33	50

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

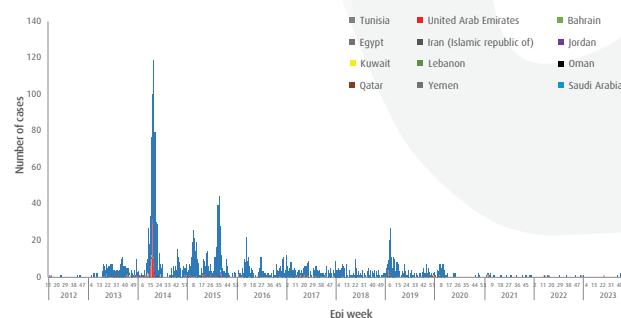
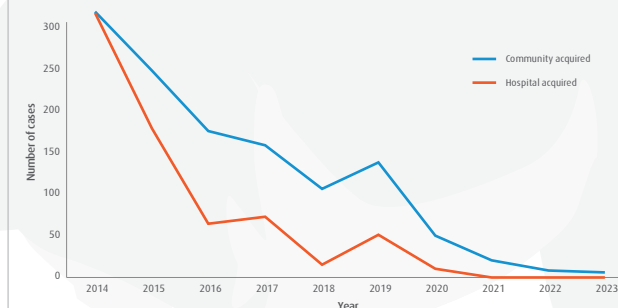


Fig. 2. Community versus hospital acquired MERS cases in Eastern Mediterranean Region, January 2014 – December 2023



KSA CASES

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

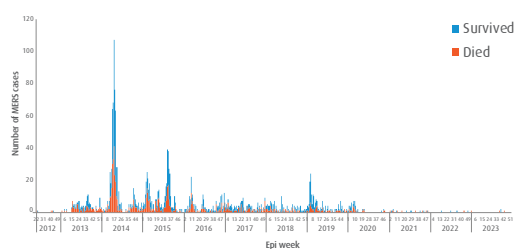


Fig. 4. Cases of MERS in healthcare workers reported from Saudi Arabia, January 2013 – December 2023

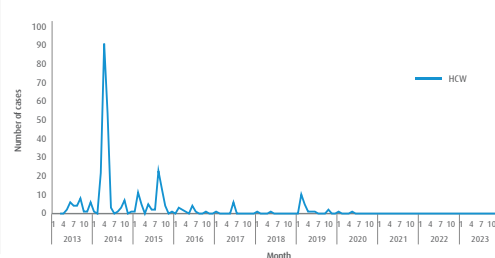


Fig. 5. Age and fatality distribution of primary and secondary cases of MERS reported from Saudi Arabia June 2012 – December 2023

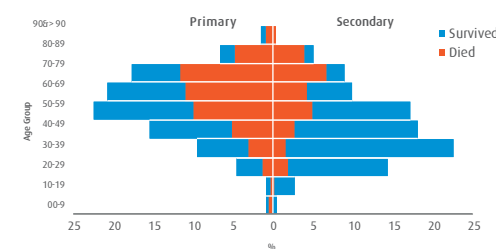


Table 3. Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Saudi Arabia, June 2012 – December 2023

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	5	1219
Secondary	1	91	371	219	85	88	39	77	10	0	0	0	981
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	5	162	663	453	248	236	141	205	59	18	5	5	2200