HIGHLIGHTS

At the end of September 2019, a total of 2468 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), including 851 associated deaths (case-fatality rate: 34.4%) were reported globally; the majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (2077 cases, including 773 related deaths with a case-fatality rate of 37.2%).

During the month of September, a total of 4 laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS were reported globally. All the 4 cases were reported from Saudi Arabia with 1 associated death. No cluster of cases was reported this month. All of the cases had their symptoms onset in September. The reported cases were between 39 and 74 years of age and all were male. No healthcare workers were affected this month.

The demographic and epidemiological characteristics of reported cases, when compared during the same corresponding period of 2014 to 2019, do not show any significant difference or change. The number of cases reported in this period was more than 2018, but significantly less than the 2014-2017 corresponding period.

The age group 50–59 years continues to be at the highest risk for acquiring MERS in Saudi Arabia 2019 (January-September). The age group 30–39 years is most at risk for infection of primary cases. The age group 50–59 years for primary cases and 70–79 years for secondary cases. The number of deaths is higher in the age group 50–59 years for primary cases and 70–79 years for secondary cases.

Age and fatality distribution of Primary and Secondary cases of MERS reported from Saudi Arabia, 2012-2019

- **MERS cases reported from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by week of symptoms onset, June 2012-September 2019**

- **Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported globally between April-September 2013 and March-September 2019**

- **Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, June 2012-September 2019**

SUMMARY

2468 Laboratory-confirmed cases reported since April 2012

851 deaths reported since April 2012

27 countries reported cases globally

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

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Laboratory-confirmed cases reported in Eastern Mediterranean Region, July 2012-September 2019

- **MERS in Saudi Arabia 2019 (January-September)**

- **Cases of MERS in healthcare workers reported from Saudi Arabia Jan 2013 - Sep 2019**