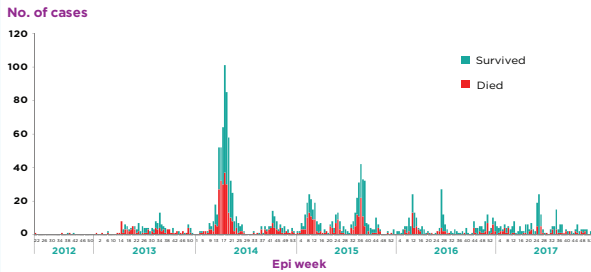


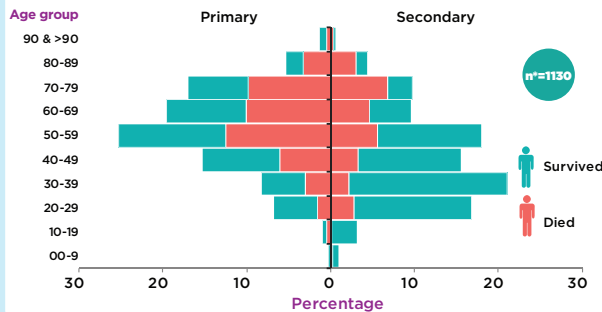
HIGHLIGHTS

- At the end of December 2017, a total of 2127 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV), including 757 associated deaths (case-fatality rate: 35.6%) were reported globally; the majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (1753 laboratory-confirmed cases, including 683 related deaths with a case-fatality rate of 38.9%).
- During the month of December, six laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS were reported globally as follows, four cases in Saudi Arabia including one associated death, once case in United Arab of Emirates and one case in Malaysia. No health-care associated transmission or hospital outbreak was reported during this month.
- The demographic and epidemiological characteristics of the cases reported in 2017 do not show any significant difference compared with cases reported during the same period from 2012 to 2016. Owing to improved infection prevention and control practices in the hospitals, the number of hospital-acquired cases of MERS has dropped significantly in 2015 and in 2016 compared to previous years.
- The age group of those aged 50–59 years continues to be the group at highest risk for acquiring infection as primary cases. For secondary cases, it is the age group of 30–39 years who are mostly at risk. The number of deaths is higher in the age group of 50–59 years for primary cases and 70–79 years for secondary cases.

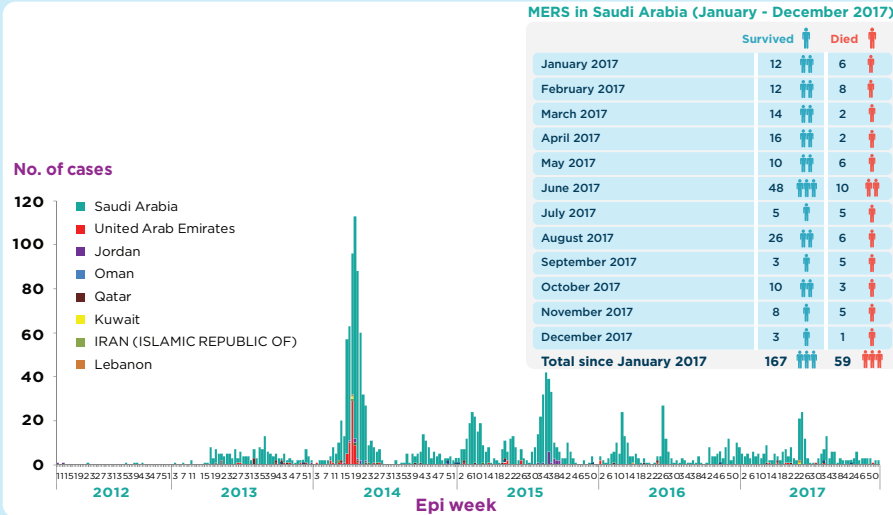
MERS cases reported from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by week of symptoms onset, June 2012- December 2017



Age and fatality distribution of Primary and Secondary cases of MERS reported from Saudi Arabia, 2012-December 2017



Laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS reported in Eastern Mediterranean Region, April 2012-December 2017



Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported globally between Jan-Dec 2013 and Jan-Dec 2017

Characteristic	Jan-Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2014	Jan-Dec 2015	Jan-Dec 2016	Jan-Dec 2017
Number	186	756	677	259	240
Median age in years	51	48	54	55	51
Gender (% male)	66	65	65	73	73
% of primary cases	23	22	9	32	32
% of secondary cases	53	41	39	24	38
(%) of unknown contact history	23	31	13	4	3
% of HCW	20	26	10	13	19
% of Fatal	53	38	33	31	25

Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, June 2012-December 2017

Type of case	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Grand Total
Primary	3	36	164	52	74	70	399
Secondary	2	93	264	222	60	90	731
Source Unidentified		1	15	102	103	61	282
Unknown		28	219	78	11	5	341
Total	5	158	662	454	248	226	1753

SUMMARY

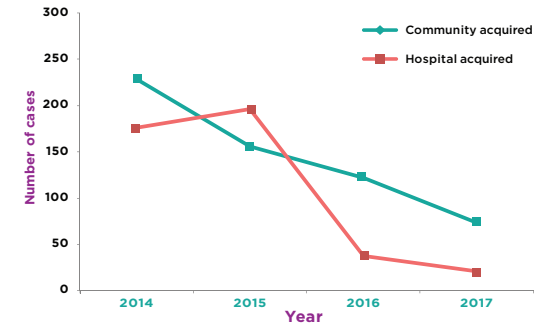
2127 Laboratory-confirmed Cases Reported Since April 2012

757 deaths reported from MERS since April 2012

27 countries reported MERS cases globally

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

Community versus hospital acquired (symptomatic) MERS cases in Eastern Mediterranean Region, Jan 2014-Dec 2017



Reported cases of MERS in healthcare workers, January 2013-December 2017

