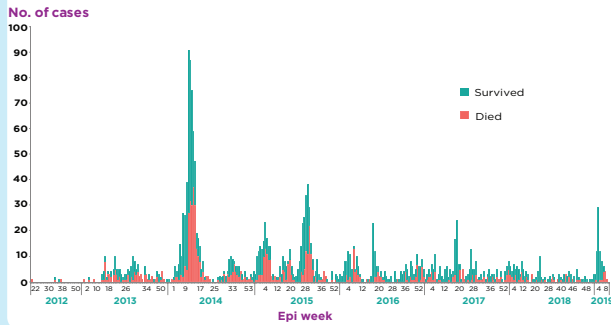


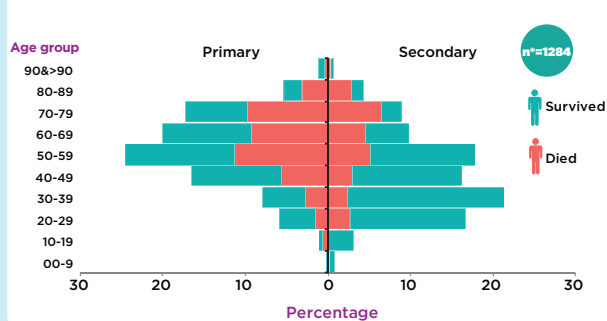
HIGHLIGHTS

- At the end of February 2019, a total of 2374 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), including 823 associated deaths (case-fatality rate: 34.6%) were reported globally; the majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (1983 cases, including 745 related deaths with a case-fatality rate of 37.5%).
- During the month of February, a total of 76 laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS were reported globally: 68 of the cases were reported from Saudi Arabia with 10 associated deaths and 8 from were reported from Oman with 2 associated deaths. This month, Saudi Arabia experienced an outbreak in Wadi Alkwaser city and one of its hospitals. From January 29 to end of February, a total of 52 laboratory-confirmed cases with 7 associated deaths have been reported for this outbreak: 1 suspected index, 3 unknown exposures, 10 sporadic primary cases, 38 secondary cases (7 household contacts and 31 hospital-acquired cases, including 11 healthcare workers). There is no ongoing active transmission occurring. In Oman this month, 4 additional secondary cases have been linked to the cluster previously reported in January and a new non-linked cluster of 4 cases (including 1 HCW) with 2 deaths was reported as well. The new cluster includes 1 suspected index case and 3 secondary cases (including 1 HCW).
- The demographic and epidemiological characteristics of reported cases, when compared during the same corresponding period of 2013 to 2019, do not show any significant difference or change, except for the increase in the number of secondary cases and healthcare worker cases due to the hospital outbreak this month. Owing to improved infection prevention and control practices in hospitals, the number of hospital-acquired cases of MERS has dropped significantly since 2015.
- The age group 50-59 years continues to be at highest risk for acquiring infection of primary cases. The age group 30-39 years is most at risk 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.

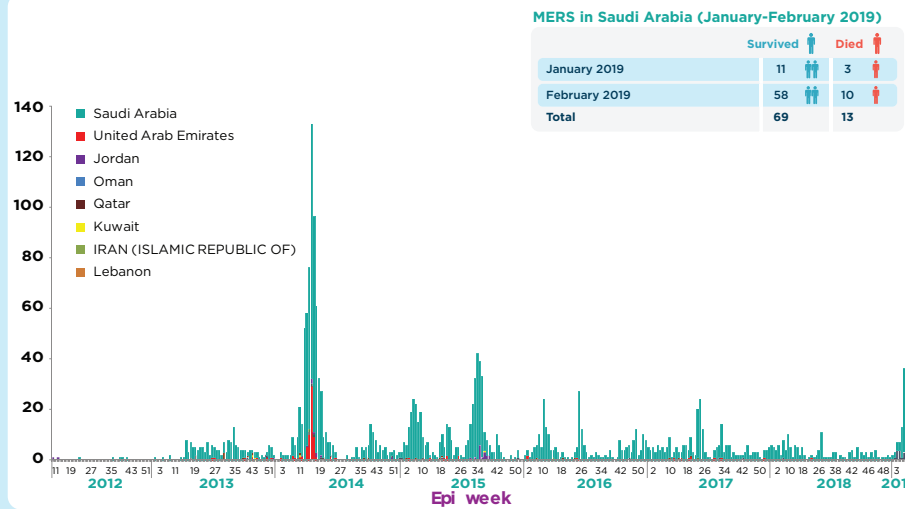
MERS cases reported from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by week of symptoms onset, June 2012-February 2019



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



Laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS reported in Eastern Mediterranean Region, April 2012-February 2019



MERS in Saudi Arabia (January-February 2019)

	Survived	Died
January 2019	11	3
February 2019	58	10
Total	69	13

Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported globally between Sep-February 2013 and Sep-February 2019

Characteristic	Sep 13-Feb 14	Sep 14-Feb 15	Sep 15-Feb 16	Sep 16-Feb 17	Sep 17-Feb 18	Sep 18-Feb 19
Number	93	207	123	120	96	125
Median age in years	54	55	49	57	56	51
Gender (% male)	72	75	67	77	76	80
% of primary cases	27	27	26	78	77	38
% of secondary cases	34	35	67	19	23	61
(%) of unknown contact history	39	37	7	3	0	1
% of HCW	22	13	22	4	4	10
% of Fatal	54	49	23	36	41	18

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

Type of case	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Grand Total
Primary	3	36	164	52	74	71	54	21	456
Secondary	2	93	264	222	60	90	35	43	771
Missing		1	15	102	103	68	52	16	346
Unknown		28	219	78	11	5	1		342
Total	5	158	662	454	248	234	142	80	1983

SUMMARY

2374 Laboratory-confirmed cases reported since April 2012

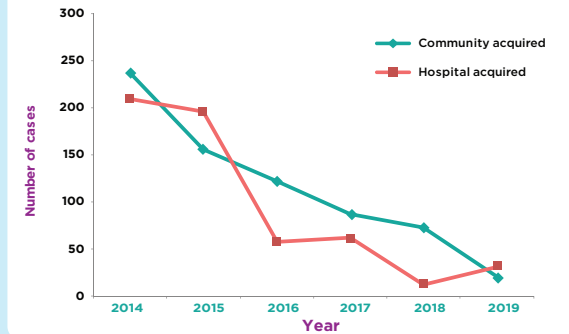
823 deaths reported since April 2012

27 countries reported cases globally

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

13 laboratory-confirmed cases reported from Oman in 2019

Community versus hospital acquired (symptomatic) MERS cases in Eastern Mediterranean Region, Jan 2014-Feb 2019



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

