**HIGHLIGHTS**

At the end of August 2019, a total of 2464 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), including 850 associated deaths (case-fatality rate: 34.4%) were reported globally; the majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (2013 cases, including 772 related deaths with a case-fatality rate of 37.2%).

During the month of August, a total of 6 laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS were reported globally. All the 6 cases were reported from Saudi Arabia with 1 associated death. Two of the cases reported had their the symptom onset in the previous month of July, and one of the reported cases in July died. One household cluster of two cases was reported this month. All the reported cases were between 49 and 71 years of age and four them 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 similar to 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 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 infection of primary cases. The age group 30–39 years is most at risk for secondary cases.

**Laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS reported in Eastern Mediterranean Region, July 2012-August 2019**

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

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

**Summary**

- **2464** laboratory-confirmed cases reported since April 2012
- **850** deaths reported since April 2012
- **27** countries reported cases globally
- **12** countries reported cases since April 2012 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

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**MERS SITUATION UPDATE**

**AUGUST 2019**

**MERS in Saudi Arabia (January-August)**

- **January 2019**: Survived = 14, Died = 1
- **February 2019**: Survived = 57, Died = 12
- **March 2019**: Survived = 22, Died = 7
- **April 2019**: Survived = 13, Died = 5
- **May 2019**: Survived = 8, Died = 5
- **June 2019**: Survived = 7, Died = 2
- **July 2019**: Survived = 5, Died = 2
- **August 2019**: Survived = 4, Died = 0

**Total**: Survived = 120, Died = 36

*Based on data of symptom onset at laboratory confirmation for asymptomatic cases
Case may differ from the previous month due to late reporting of cases having symptom onset in the previous month*