

Highlights

- From April 2012 till December 2022, a total of 2603 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) were reported globally, with 935 associated deaths at a case-fatality ratio (CFR) of 36%. The majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia, with 2194 cases and 854 related deaths (CFR: 39%).
- During the month of December 2022, two new cases were 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 2022.
- 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 year-olds.

Fig. 1. Distribution of MERS reported cases from Eastern Mediterranean Region by week of onset, June 2012 – December 2022

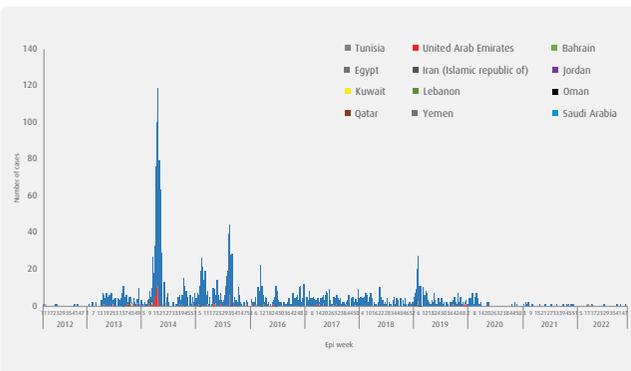
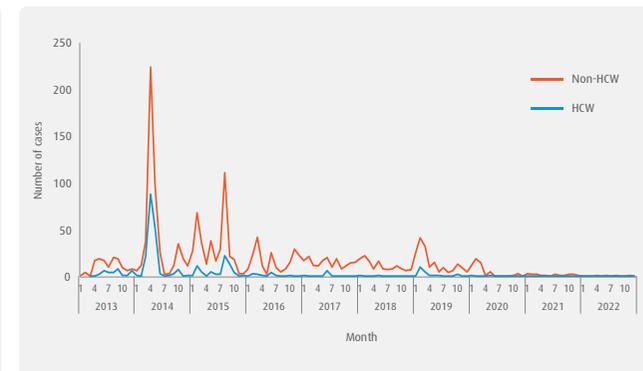


Fig. 4. Cases of MERS in healthcare workers reported from Saudi Arabia, January 2013 – December 2022



SUMMARY

2603
Laboratory-confirmed cases reported since April 2012

935
Deaths reported since April 2012

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 2022

2022	Survived	Died
January	0	0
February	0	0
March	1	0
April	3	1
May	0	0
June	0	0
July	1	0
August	0	0
September	1	0
October	0	0
November	1	0
December	1	0
Total	8	1

Fig. 2. Community versus hospital acquired MERS cases in Eastern Mediterranean Region, January 2014 – December 2022



Table 3. Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Saudi Arabia, June 2012 - December 2022

Type of case	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total
Primary	4	71	292	234	163	148	102	128	49	18	5	1214
Secondary	1	91	371	219	85	88	39	77	10	0	0	981
Grand Total	5	162	663	453	248	236	141	205	59	18	5	2195

Table 2. Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported globally between July 2017 – December 2017 and July 2022 – December 2022

Characteristic	July 17 - Dec 17	July 18 - Dec 18	July 19 - Dec 19	July 20 - Dec 20	July 21 - Dec 21	July 22 - Dec 22
Number	242	233	208	123	16	19
Median age in years	55	51	53	56	52	60
Gender (% male)	72	73	79	82	81	95
% of Primary Cases	70	63	58	80	88	94
% of Secondary cases	29	37	42	20	13	0
(%) of Unknown Contact History	1	0	0	0	0	6
% of HCW	13	17	11	8	13	0
% Fatal	32	30	28	32	44	26

Fig. 3. MERS cases per week of onset in Saudi Arabia, June 2012 – December 2022

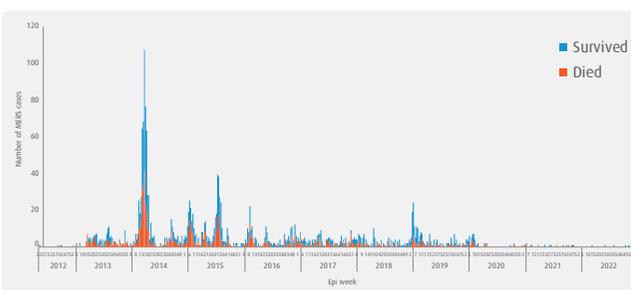


Fig. 5. Age and fatality distribution of primary and secondary cases of MERS reported from Saudi Arabia June 2012 – December 2022

