

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL CASES

HIGHLIGHTS

- From April 2012 till May 2023, a total of 2604 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) were reported globally, with 936 associated deaths at a case-fatality ratio (CFR) of 36%. The majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia, with 2196 cases and 855 related deaths (CFR: 39%).
- During the month of May 2023, no 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 2023.
- 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 years-olds.

*Disclaimer: Data are subject to change over time due to lag in reporting.

SUMMARY

 **0**
New cases

 **2604**
Laboratory-confirmed cases reported since April 2012

 **12**
Countries reported cases since April 2012 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

 **936**
Deaths reported since April 2012

 **27**
Countries reported cases globally

Table 1. Number of MERS cases in the Eastern Mediterranean Region by month and outcome in 2023

2023	Survived	Died
January	0	1
February	0	0
March	0	0
April	0	0
May	0	0
Total	0	1

Table 2. Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported globally between December 2017 – May 2018 and December 2022 – May 2023

Characteristic	Dec 17 - May 18	Dec 18 - May 19	Dec 19 - May 20	Dec 20 - May 21	Dec 21 - May 22	Dec 22 - May 23
Number	156	160	76	12	5	3
Median age in years	48	51	56	52	49	83
Gender (% male)	69	76	82	75	80	100
% of Primary Cases	51	52	74	83	100	67
% of Secondary cases	49	48	26	17	0	0
(%) of Unknown Contact History	0	0	0	0	0	33
% of HCW	25	14	11	18	0	0
% Fatal	23	28	33	42	40	33

Fig. 1. Distribution of MERS reported cases from Eastern Mediterranean Region by week of onset, June 2012 – May 2023

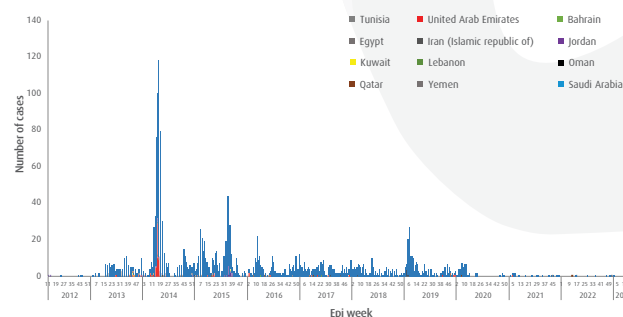
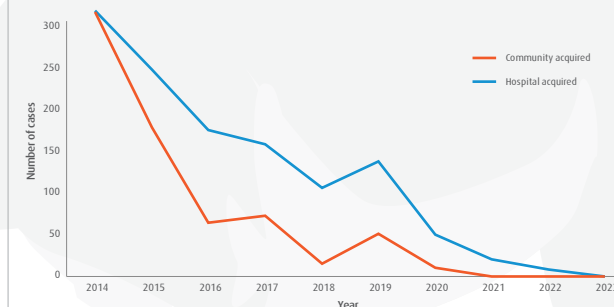


Fig. 2. Community versus hospital acquired MERS cases in Eastern Mediterranean Region, January 2014 – May 2023



KSA CASES

Fig. 3. MERS cases per week of onset in Saudi Arabia, June 2012 – May 2023

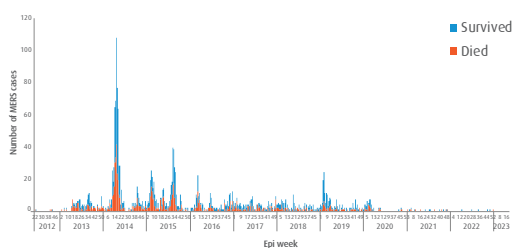


Fig. 4. Cases of MERS in healthcare workers reported from Saudi Arabia, January 2013 – May 2023

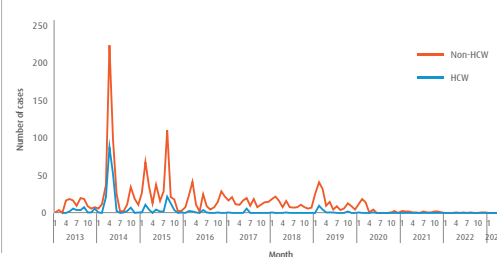


Fig. 5. Age and fatality distribution of primary and secondary cases of MERS reported from Saudi Arabia June 2012 – May 2023

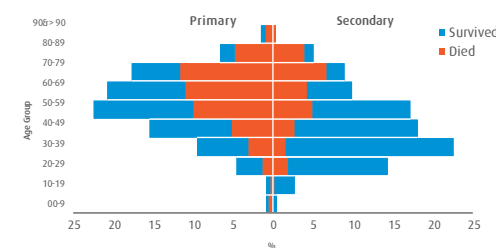


Table 3. Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Saudi Arabia, June 2012 - May 2023

Type of case	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
Primary	4	71	292	234	163	148	102	128	49	18	5	1	1215
Secondary	1	91	371	219	85	88	39	77	10	0	0	0	981
Grand Total	5	162	663	453	248	236	141	205	59	18	5	1	2196